TEXAS BUSINESS REVIEW

A Monthly Summary of Business and Economic Conditions in Texas

BUREAU OF BUSINESS RESEARCH : THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

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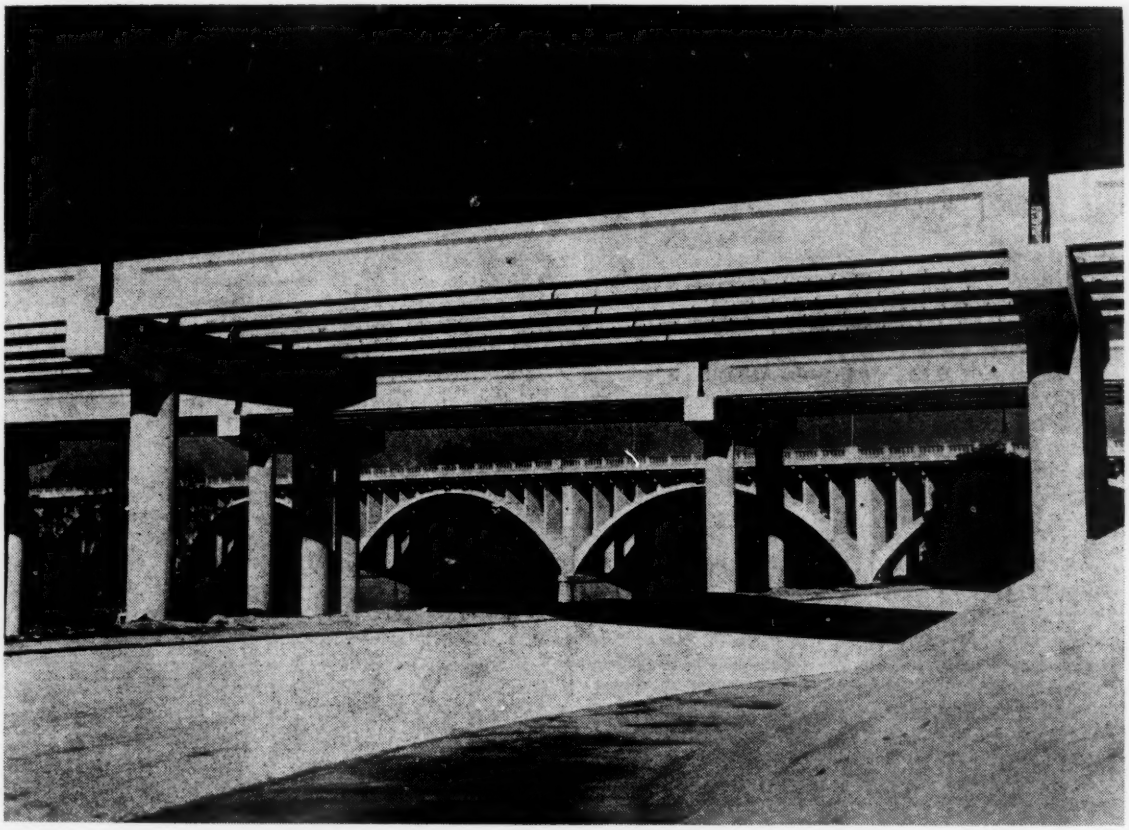
The Prestressed Concrete Industry in Texas



The above photograph of a new prestressed concrete girder bridge over the Guadalupe River at New Braunfels (with the existing concrete arch bridge in the background) symbolizes the growth of the Texas prestressed concrete industry. A report on the industry begins on page 5.

The Business Situation in Texas

By FRANCIS B. MAY

The seasonally adjusted Index of Texas Business Activity rose in September to a level of 225% of the 1947–49 average rate of activity. It was 1% above August and 11% above the September 1958 index value. The index level was only a single percentage point below its all-time high value of 226 reached in July of this year. This index is a broad measure of the level of economic activity in the state, covering payments resulting from transactions in manufacturing, agriculture, trade, and the service industries. Consequently, it is affected by general recessions in business but not by a decline in activity in any one sector unless the sector is large and the decline a severe one.

Although nonagricultural employment declined in September to 2,451,000 from the 2,456,300 at work in August (a 5,300 drop), it was still 43,500 above September 1958 employment. Employment in the primary metals industry in September was 19,900, a 4,100 drop from the July level. This was due in large part to the strike in the steel and copper industries. Two factors have prevented this strike from having a more noticeable effect on the state's economy; the first is that Lone Star Steel is operating full blast; the second is that total employment in the primary metals industry in the state is relatively small. Since inventories of manufacturers and fabricators of steel products in the state have been affected by the closing of most steel producers, October employment data may show a greater impact of the strike in the state. This may affect the index of business activity as layoffs due to steel shortages affect salary and wage payments in a wide range of companies. With Lone Star working at capacity, there is unlikely to be any severe shortage of oil field tubular goods, its principal product. By firing up its fifth open-hearth furnace the company is supplying some out-of-state demand for steel slabs. With Sheffield Steel in Houston closed, the inventory situation for structural shapes used in construction is undoubtedly a thin one.

Miscellaneous freight carloadings in September were 1% below August, after allowance for seasonal factors is made. Freight losses due to strikes are being made up by fall shipments of agricultural products. At 80% of the 1947–49 average volume of loadings, the index is 5% above the September 1958 value. At its post-recession peak in May the index reached a value of 88% of 1947–49. The last time this index was above 100 was in April of 1953 when it stood at 102.

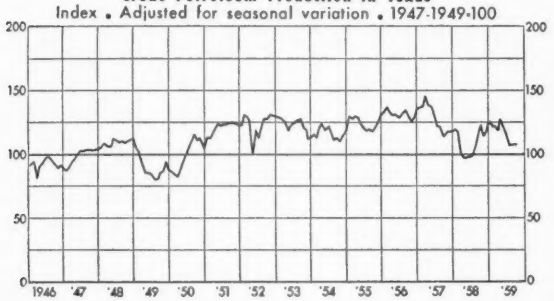
Crude petroleum production in September remained at the August level of 108% of the 1947–49 average output, after taking seasonal factors into account. At this volume, September output was 12% below the September 1958 output. Last year at this time the industry was recovering from a condition of oversupply caused by the Suez crisis. Under pressure from Washington the Railroad Commission increased allowables in order to avoid an anticipated acute shortage of crude in Western Europe when the Egyptian government closed the Suez Canal. Quick reopening of the canal and resumption of shipments to Europe from the Middle East left crude producers in this country without a market for the crude produced in excess of U.S. demand. The result was several months of stringent proration in Texas. By fall the excess inventories were consumed and

production started upward again, only to run into stiff competition from burgeoning imports.

Application of mandatory import quotas restricting imports to a level of about 9% of domestic demand mitigated this problem but created another. Since quotas are related to refinery runs, the tendency of the average refiner to refine all the oil delivered at the refinery gate was aggravated. The marketers of refined products have resorted to price cutting and every kind of sales promotion in an effort to dispose of towering stocks of gasoline and other products. For the past several months Texas producers have been held to 9 days production in an effort to reduce refinery runs. But the refiners have taken to using oil from out of state. Texas producers find themselves tightening their belts only to provide markets for out-of-state producers.

It is obvious that Texas cannot continue to bear the brunt of corrective action needed to adjust surpluses of either crude or refined products. Other states must bear their

Crude Petroleum Production in Texas
Index • Adjusted for seasonal variation • 1947-1949-100



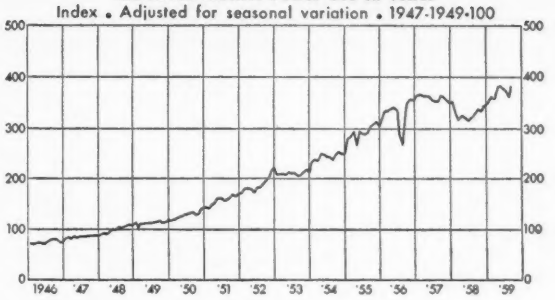
share of the burden. Texas has about a million and a half barrels a day of shut-in capacity. This is too much. Employment in oil and gas production in Texas has declined from a peak of 125,000 in 1957 to 117,900 in September, a loss of 7,100 jobs paying an average wage of $110.42 a week in September. This represents a decline of $41 million a year in oil field payrolls and in Texas personal income. There is no prospect of a large enough increase in domestic demand in the next year or two to correct this imbalance in the Texas oil industry. Current expectation is that next year will see a modest increase in demand for crude.

Refinery runs in Texas held steady at the same level as August. At 137% of the 1947–49 average the index was 2% below September of last year. A steady level of refinery runs did not prevent stocks of gasoline and fuel oil from remaining about 7% above the desirable level for this time of year. As a result, price weakness continues to be a problem.

It is interesting to note that the peak value of the index of refinery runs was 155 reached in June of 1956. The large tidewater refineries built on the Atlantic coast right after the Korean War to refine Middle Eastern crude have absorbed part of the Atlantic Coast market for Gulf Coast refined products.

Total electric power consumption in September rose 2% above August after seasonal adjustment. At 418% of the 1947–49 average it was 11% above September of last year. Industrial electric power consumption was 6% above August and 13% above September of 1958. Continued high industrial power consumption indicates that aside from

Industrial Electric Power Use in Texas
Index • Adjusted for seasonal variation • 1947-1949-100



plants directly affected by the steel and copper strikes, industrial activity continued at a high level.

Ordinary life insurance sales rose 12% in September above the previous month, after allowance for seasonal factors. For the first 9 months of this year, sales averaged 8% above the same period of last year. In the nation, nine-month sales were 7% above last year. Higher interest rates and weakness in the stock market have revived interest in saving as a source of security instead of speculation in securities. Investment in "blue chips" in order to take advantage of the long-run growth of the economy is one thing. Speculation in the hope of a quick profit is another and much more hazardous employment of one's surplus funds.

Total retail sales in Texas in September dropped 6% below August, after seasonal adjustment. They were 5% above September of 1958. Sales of both durables and nondurables fell, durable goods dropping 14% and nondurables dropping 3%. Both of these indexes remained above their September 1958 levels—durables by 13% and nondurables by 3%.

Among durable goods, automotive stores suffered the greatest loss, 24%, which was nearly three times the usual seasonal decline at this time of year. Part of this was due to the usual drop associated with model changes. Furniture

SELECTED BAROMETERS OF TEXAS BUSINESS
(1947–49 = 100)

Index	Sept 1959	Aug 1959	Sept 1958	Percent change: Sept 1959 from Aug 1959	Percent change: Sept 1959 from Sept 1958
Texas Business Activity	225	222	202	+ 1	+ 11
Miscellaneous freight carloading in S.W. district	80	81	76	— 1	+ 5
Crude petroleum production	108*	108r	123	**	— 12
Crude oil runs to stills	137	137	140	**	— 2
Total electric power consumption	418*	408r	375r	+ 2	+ 11
Industrial electric power consumption	382*	362r	339r	+ 6	+ 13
Bank debits	269	264	240	+ 2	+ 12
Ordinary life insurance sales	408	365	416	+ 12	— 2
Total retail sales	213*	226r	203r	— 6	+ 5
Durable-goods sales	154*	179r	136r	— 14	+ 13
Nondurable-goods sales	244*	251r	237r	— 3	+ 3
Urban building permits issued	223	231	238	— 3	— 6
Residential	277	257	291	+ 8	— 5
Nonresidential	183	203	177	— 10	+ 3

Adjusted for seasonal variation, except annual averages and farm cash income.

* Preliminary.

r Revised.

** Change is less than one-half of one percent.

and household appliance stores also experienced a greater than seasonal drop. September sales in all durable goods categories, however, were substantially above the year-ago figures.

Among nondurables, counterseasonal declines were noted among apparel stores and food stores. Drug sales rose counterseasonally as did sales of service stations.

The drop in retail sales was due to a combination of factors. Among them fear of layoffs due to the prolonged steel strike and farm income that was not up to the year-ago levels played an important part. Nationally, retail sales fell 2% in September due to reduced personal income resulting from the strike.

Urban building permits in September fell 3% below the August level, after allowing for seasonal factors. The decline resulted from a lag in nonresidential permits of 10% below August. Residential permits rose 8% above August.

During the first seven months of this year total building permits issued were substantially above the corresponding levels of 1958. It is only during August and September that the rate has fallen below the year-ago levels. During the last half of 1958, construction benefited from emergency housing measures passed by Congress to combat the recession. Credit tightening policies initiated prior to the strike in order to combat inflation have raised interest rates in general, including rates on home loans. The credit stringency has had a retarding effect. Even so, it seems that 1959 will prove to be a good year for home builders and for construction in general. The next session of Congress will probably act to pump more credit into the housing market. Nationally, housing starts have been declining for the past several months.

In summary it can be said that the Texas economy is showing strong resistance to unfavorable factors such as the steel strike and a sluggish oil industry. The long-range picture is one of continued growth at a rate approximating the national trend. This means a slower rate than in the past. This condition can be altered if more growth industries such as electronics, missiles, and space vehicle fabrication can be brought into the state. Texans are going to have to hustle in the 1960's in order to maintain their former economic growth rate. The rest of the nation will be aiming at the stars. Shall we join them?

FEDERAL INTERNAL REVENUE COLLECTIONS

Source: Internal Revenue Service, U. S. Treasury Department

District	July 1–September 30		
	1959	1958	Percent change
TEXAS	$640,274,162	$563,027,566	+ 14
Income	269,026,728	232,094,456	+ 16
Employment	3,260,036	3,625,436	— 10
Withholding	311,783,614	268,428,509	+ 16
Other	56,203,784	58,879,165	— 5
SOUTHERN DISTRICT	323,517,337	302,010,624	+ 7
Income	131,386,892	128,074,381	+ 3
Employment	21,769	33,355	— 35
Withholding	157,740,135	136,931,328	+ 15
Other	34,368,541	36,971,565	— 7
NORTHERN DISTRICT	316,756,825	261,016,942	+ 21
Income	137,639,836	104,020,075	+ 32
Employment	3,238,267	3,592,081	— 10
Withholding	154,043,479	131,497,186	+ 17
Other	21,835,243	21,907,600	**

** Change is less than one-half of one percent.

TEXAS BUSINESS REVIEW

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The Prestressed Concrete Industry in Texas

By A. A. TOPRAC*

Since the first prestressed concrete deck-girder bridge was constructed late in 1949, over Lincoln Drive in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the industry has come a long way. At that time in the United States there was no organized prestressed concrete industry with central plants. The Walnut Lane Bridge over Lincoln Drive, mentioned above, was a girder cast and prestressed in place.

Although the theory of prestressed concrete is more than 50 years old, the technique has gained favor in the United States only during the past few years. Initially employed as an answer to the shortage of structural steel, its other advantages were soon obvious, and with each successive job its application is being extended.

The prestressing of concrete can be accomplished in two ways: (1) with bond, and (2) without bond.

With bond, the steel is tensioned against exterior anchors, then, after the concrete has hardened, the steel is released from the anchors. This is called "pre-tensioning."

When the steel is not bonded to the concrete, it is generally placed in ducts or pipes in the concrete and tensioned against the hardened beam. The Walnut Lane Bridge mentioned above belongs to this type of prestressing which more technically is called "post-tensioning."

It is with pre-tensioning that the industry came to age in this country because this type of prestressed concrete can be mass-produced in central plants and thus result in efficient utilization of labor and materials. Furthermore, in central plants quality control is accomplished much easier. The discussion in this report from now on will refer only to prestressed members that are pre-tensioned.

The manufacture of prestressed concrete members now comprises a new and rapidly-growing industry. With mass production techniques, slabs and beams are precast and turned out on an assembly-line basis. Seven years ago, there were no manufacturers in this field; today, there are about 250. In 1956 the actual volume of prestressed concrete manufactured in the United States was $200 million —about double the volume of 1955—and since then there has been a considerable increase in this figure, which is indicative of the industry's rapid growth.

There are several factors that enabled prestressed concrete to catch on so in this country during the past few years. These include: shortages and rises in steel prices; assembly line advantages of prefabrication, particularly economy; durability and strength of construction; and the little maintenance required.

In Texas the growth of the industry generally paralleled the trends in the whole country. The first prestressed bridge (post-tensioned) was built in 1952, spanning the San Bernard River in Austin County, Texas.

Pre-tensioning plants were in production in the state of Texas around 1955. These plants produced beams for building construction or bridge girders or both. Although precast concrete beams were mass-produced in central plants as early as 1948, the industry had an accelerated growth in number of plants and output volume with the introduction of prestressing. At present there are eighteen plants with pre-tensioning beds in Texas; fourteen of these are in operation.

It is difficult to evaluate the dollar value of the production of all prestress plants in the state of Texas. Exact figures are available for girders used in highway bridge construction only and are shown in Table 1.

These figures show that the price of prestressed concrete bridge girders between 1957 and 1959 dropped by about 20% based on the 1957 prices. On the other hand prices for I-beam and girders (structural steel) show a drop of about 23% for the same time interval. This indicates that prestressed concrete may have become more competitive when compared with structural steel and this might have forced fabricated steel prices down. In the same table fabricated steel prices in Texas are compared with national averages. This comparison shows that Texas prices are consistently lower than national averages.

The relatively frequent design of prestressed concrete girders for bridges by the Texas Highway Department gave a decided impetus—together with the use of prestressed concrete in buildings—in the development of pretensioning plants. It is to be noted that such plants were extensively used also in the production of piling for bridges and viaducts.

Bridge construction costs in the state of Texas have been relatively low. One of the factors that kept bridge costs low can probably be attributed to prestressed concrete and to the willingness of Texas bridge engineers to adopt new designs and take advantage of developments in materials and methods. By giving prestressed concrete bridges as alternates to other types, highway departments probably could lower bridge construction costs. In Table 2 average prices are presented for 1957 to 1959 for prestressed concrete and structural steel used in bridge construction in Texas. These averages are different than those of Table 1 and they are based on "the lowest prices" for the particular item offered by any of the contractors entering bids, and usually they are not the price of the lowest bidder for a project. It is felt that such an average will reflect more nearly the prices of steel fabricating and prestressed concrete firms.

It will be noted that prestressed concrete prices, based on this "lowest price averages," again show a 20% drop between 1957 and 1959. On the other hand the drop in steel prices, computed in this fashion, is 22%. These figures check percentages obtained from Table 1.

The study of prices, when alternate designs of prestressed concrete and structural steel were given, is inconclusive and shows no appreciable deviation from the rest of the prices.

If a graph were made for the period 1953–1959, showing total pounds of structural steel used for all Texas highway projects, amount of miles of construction and the total dollar outlay for all highway construction, it would

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TABLE 1

USE OF STRUCTURAL STEEL AND PRESTRESSED CONCRETE FOR HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION IN TEXAS

Year	Structural (Carbon) Steel			Prestressed Concrete (Texas)	
	Texas	National Index (1)	Texas Prices Nat'l Index	Dollars Lin. Ft.	per ft. (2)
1951	15.1	18.0	0.84	.....	.....
1952	14.7	18.6	0.79	.....	.....
1953	13.4	18.6	0.72	.....	.....
1954	12.6	16.7	0.75	.....	.....
1955	13.9 (13.3)*	16.5	0.84 (0.81)*	.....	.....
1956	19.6 (16.9)**	20.2	0.97 (.84)**	.....	.....
1957	18.2	21.8	0.83	246,596	16.40
1958	13.8	19.3	0.71	228,035	14.40
1959 (½ yr)	14.0	18.7	0.75	186,568	13.24

(1) Structural steel price index for Federal-aid highway construction.
(2) Average of monthly bid price of low bidder for project (not weighted).
* Adjustment for Pecos Bridge.
** Adjustment for Corpus Christi Bridge.

be noted that for several years (1953–1956) the line that depicted "pounds of steel used" would parallel that for "outlay in dollars." However, this trend breaks sharply for the years 1957, 1958 and part of 1959. For these years, although there is an increase in highway construction activity, the pounds of steel used dropped considerably in spite of lower prices. Thus steel was replaced by prestressed concrete in many cases. For example, if five pieces of 60-foot prestressed beams are assumed to replace four 130-pound, 60-foot-long WF beams, or 31,800 lbs. of steel, then the 246,956 linear feet of prestressed concrete girders used in 1957 replaced 25,594,000 lbs. of steel. When this amount is added to the actual steel used then the previous trend for the years 1953–1956 is restored. Using the above quantities as an example, the cost of steel would have to be $0.127 per pound to be competitive with prestressed concrete beams at the current bid price of $13.24 per linear foot. For shorter span structures, prestressed beams are usually used to replace a like number of steel beams which further reduces the competitive price of structural steel. (For precise comparison, costs of complete structures should be considered.)

It is obvious, therefore, that prestressed concrete is here to stay and that it will have a stabilizing effect on bridge costs. During times of steel scarcity designers can switch to prestressed bridges and thus avoid high steel prices. During times of ample steel supply steel has to compete with prestressed concrete. Thus, the Texas Highway Department engineers are in a position to keep costs down under any circumstances. Although similar experiences of rapid growth and design economies can be reported in several other states, not all highway departments have taken advantage of the use of prestressed concrete as a construction method. It is hoped that these highway departments in other states will try to create this situation in their respective states.

An approximate analysis of the financial and investment side of pretensioning plants may be of interest. The following is a typical average investment necessary for starting a central pretensioning plant:

Average Typical Investment	*Dollars*
Land—About 30 acres minimum	30,000
Site Development (Road, water, railroad siding, etc.)	20,000
Beds (Two lines about 400'–500' long)	40,000
Batching and mixing equipment	20,000
Jacks for two lines	10,000
Building	10,000
Handling equipment (Fork lifts and two trucks)	90,000
Forms	18,000
Steam boiler and distribution lines	15,000
Curing mats	5,000
Miscellaneous (Testing equipment, small tools, chain hoist, pumps, wheel barrows, office equipment, etc.)	15,000
Working capital, minimum cash	100,000
Total	$373,000

The above is presented only as an approximate required investment. New equipment is being considered in this compilation. It is possible that certain items could be reduced if used equipment is available. On the other hand the working capital of $100,000 will have to be supplemented by bank credit. Under some situations the working capital required could be as high as $300,000. A round figure often quoted for necessary capital, if a new venture is to be started, is $500,000. Such an investment should leave sufficient working capital for proper and profitable operation—provided, of course, that there is an adequate market for prestressed concrete products.

It would perhaps be advisable for contractors, ready mix concrete suppliers, aggregate producers, manufacturers of concrete products such as blocks and pipes and others in allied businesses to enter the field of prestressing. Although no technical difficulties are encountered by people who have experience in the above mentioned fields, prestressing does require skilled and trained personnel and it would be well for those planning to manufacture components to seek expert advice first. For one thing, large capital reserves are necessary and the equipment and plant must be large enough to handle the potential market

TABLE 2

COMPARISON OF "LOWEST PRICES" FOR PRESTRESSED CONCRETE AND STRUCTURAL STEEL FOR TEXAS HIGHWAY BRIDGES

Year	Prestressed Concrete Avg. Price Dollars per lin. ft. Without Alternate	With Alternate in Steel	Steel—I-Beams & Girders Avg. Price Dollars per lb. With Alternate in Prestr. Concrete	Without Alternate
1959 (8 mo.)	11.57 (26 Projects)	12.13 (6 Projects)	0.132 (4 Bids; 6 Projects: 2 N.B.)	0.131 (64 Projects)
1958	13.70 (38 Projects)	12.8 (1 Bid; 3 Projects: 2 N.B.)	0.136 (3 Projects)	0.129 (65 Projects)
1957	14.56 (41 Projects)	14.94 (2 Projects)	0.156 (2 Projects)	0.168 (56 Projects)

and make profits. Such a plant as has been shown above is relatively costly.

Production facilities must be ample to meet delivery dates and adequate storage space is required to stock finished beams and members. Considerable information can be obtained from published literature regarding prestressed concrete products and central plants. A partial list of references that deal with prestressed concrete plants and products together with applications and utilization is available on request.

Before a prestressing plant is built it is advisable that a proper market research and evaluation be made. Such factors as availability of sand and gravel (aggregates) and their cost, nearness of other plants and competition must be thoroughly studied. Transportation (freight) costs play an important role and should be evaluated in conjunction with freight cost of aggregates in case they are not locally available. An often-quoted figure for approximate limit for economical haul of beams is 100–150 miles. However, this figure will vary depending on type of transportation used, competition, and several other business factors. Several examples can be cited where prestressed girders have been hauled in excess of 300 miles for highway projects.

The Texas Highway Department's experience is that the stimulation and growth of the prestressed concrete industry has been to the public interest. In that case designing prestressed concrete bridges, at least as alternate designs, by other highway departments is in order.

CHANGES IN CONDITION OF WEEKLY REPORTING MEMBER BANKS IN THE DALLAS FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT

Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

Account	Percent change* Sept 1959 from Aug 1959	Sept 1959 from Sept 1958	Sept 1958 from Aug 1958
TOTAL ASSETS	— 1	+ 1	— 1
Loans and investments, less loans to banks and valuation reserves	— 1	+ 2	— 1
Loans, less loans to banks and valuation reserves	+ 1	+ 10	+ 1
Commercial, industrial, and agricultural loans†	+ 1	+ 11	+ 2
Loans for purchasing or carrying securities	**	+ 3	— 4
Real estate loans	+ 4	**	— 1
Other loans	**	+ 11	— 1
Total U.S. Government securities	— 7	— 13	— 4
Treasury bills	— 61	— 41	+ 3
Treasury certificates of indebtedness	— 6	— 75	— 20
Treasury notes and bonds	— 2	— 3	— 1
Other securities	+ 4	— 8	— 1
Loans to banks	— 87	— 47	— 67
Reserves with Federal Reserve banks	— 6	— 10	+ 6
Cash in vaults	+ 4	+ 6	— 2
Balance with domestic banks	+ 12	+ 6	— 5
Other net assets	+ 6	— 2	+ 3
TOTAL LIABILITIES	— 1	**	— 1
Total adjusted deposits	— 1	**	— 1
Demand deposits	**	+ 1	+ 1
Time deposits	+ 1	— 6	**
U. S. Government deposits	— 17	+ 77	— 34
Total interbank deposits	**	— 3	— 6
Domestic banks	+ 1	— 3	— 5
Foreign banks	— 13	— 7	— 21
Borrowings	— 37	+114	+1300
Other liabilities	+ 9	— 14	+ 4
CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	**	+ 9	**

*Percentage changes are based on the week nearest the end of the month.

**Change is less than one-half of one percent.

†Includes loans to nonbank financial institutions.

ESTIMATES OF NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

Source: Texas Employment Commission in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor

Industry	Employment (thous) Sept* 1959	Aug† 1959	Sept 1958	Percent change Sept 1959 from Aug 1959	Sept 1959 from Sept 1958
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	2,451.0	2,456.3	2,407.5	**	+ 2
MANUFACTURING	482.4	484.8	376.8	**	+ 1
Durable goods	230.8	233.1	226.3	— 1	+ 2
Ordnance and accessories	1.8	1.8	1.6	**	+ 13
Lumber and wood products	21.2	21.3	19.5	**	+ 9
Furniture and fixtures	12.0	11.8	11.0	+ 2	+ 9
Stone, clay, and glass	23.9	24.2	22.9	— 1	+ 4
Primary metals	19.9	21.1	21.3	— 6	— 7
Fabricated metal products	27.8	28.2	27.8	— 1	**
Machinery (except electrical)	40.2	40.4	36.8	**	+ 9
Electrical equipment	16.3	16.2	11.4	+ 1	+ 43
Transportation equipment	57.6	58.4	65.1	— 1	— 12
Other durable goods	10.1	9.7	8.9	+ 4	+ 13
Nondurable goods	251.6	251.7	250.5	**	**
Food	78.0	77.0	78.4	+ 1	— 1
Textile mill products	7.1	7.0	7.0	+ 1	+ 1
Apparel	33.7	34.2	32.5	— 1	+ 4
Printing and publishing	28.1	28.2	27.5	**	+ 2
Paper and allied products	9.5	9.6	9.2	— 1	+ 3
Chemical and allied products	42.7	42.7	40.9	**	+ 4
Petroleum products	42.4	42.7	45.9	—1	— 8
Leather and leather products	3.9	4.1	3.7	— 5	+ 5
Other nondurable goods	6.2	6.2	5.4	**	+ 15
NONMANUFACTURING	1,968.6	1,971.5	1,930.7	**	+ 2
Mining	125.0	126.5	124.9	— 1	**
Petroleum and natural gas	117.9	119.3	118.0	— 1	**
Metal, coal, and other mining	7.1	7.2	6.9	— 1	+ 3
Contract construction	173.5	180.5	156.4	— 4	+ 11
Transportation and utilities	225.8	226.9	226.3	**	**
Interstate railroads	43.2	44.1	43.5	— 2	— 1
Public utilities	42.6	43.0	42.3	— 1	+ 1
Telephone and telegraph	38.9	39.2	39.0	— 1	**
Other transportation	101.1	100.6	101.5	**	**
Government	419.8	410.0	410.6	+ 2	+ 2
Trade	624.4	623.8	616.1	**	+ 1
Wholesale trade	169.7	170.4	167.6	**	+ 1
Retail trade	454.7	453.4	448.5	**	+ 1
General merchandise	80.9	78.7	80.7	+ 3	**
Food and liquor stores	73.4	72.4	72.1	+ 1	+ 2
Automotive stores	77.3	78.1	78.0	— 1	— 1
Apparel stores	29.0	28.5	29.5	+ 2	— 2
Building materials, hardware and farm equipment	38.4	39.4	36.3	— 3	+ 6
Other retail trade	155.7	156.3	151.9	**	+ 3
Finance, insurance, and real estate	115.3	116.3	113.2	**	+ 2
Bank and trust companies	30.3	30.4	29.0	**	+ 4
Insurance	48.9	49.3	48.6	— 1	+ 1
Real estate and finance	36.1	36.6	35.6	— 1	+ 1
Service and miscellaneous	284.8	287.5	283.2	— 1	+ 1
Hotel and lodging places	26.7	27.6	26.5	— 3	+ 1
Laundries and cleaners	35.9	36.1	36.0	— 1	**
Other service and miscellaneous	222.2	223.8	220.7	— 1	+ 1

* Preliminary.

** Change is less than one-half of one percent.

† Revised.

Building Construction:

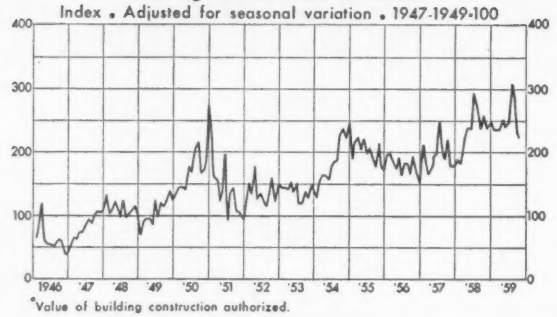
SEPTEMBER PERMITS UP LESS THAN EXPECTED

By ROBERT H. DRENNER

Urban building construction with an estimated value of $101,427,000 was authorized in Texas in September. This amount, though up 5% from the preceding month, represented less than the state's usual August-to-September seasonal gain. The adjusted monthly index of permits issued consequently declined from 231 in August to 223, at which point the index was at its lowest level since April 1958. September permits were also 6% under the same month a year earlier.

Total building construction approved in Texas in the first six months of the year showed a 13% gain from the comparable 1958 period. Beginning with July, however, the cumulative improvement has been steadily reduced; at the end of the third quarter it was down to 7%, and the last quarter is expected to push it still lower. Some months ago it was predicted that building activity in 1959 would be about 5% above 1958 (which would make 1959 a new record year in Texas building), and at present there appears to be no good reason to change that forecast. Building construction in Texas is still at a very high level, but the rate of activity is obviously slowing. It is unlikely that last quarter permits will match those of October-December 1958, even if the nonresidential category shows the strength it is expected to in the next few months. Downward pressure on residential building, already substantial, is expected to increase and to last well into 1960, and the residential classification regularly accounts for over 60% of all new building in the state.

Building Construction in Texas*



*Value of building construction authorized.

RESIDENTIAL

New residential (housekeeping) buildings valued at an estimated $59,634,000 were authorized in Texas in September, an amount approximately equal to the August figure but 5% below authorizations in September 1958. However, in spite of the generally downward trend in permits for

HOURS AND EARNINGS IN TEXAS†

Source: Texas Employment Commission in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor.

Industry	Average weekly earnings			Average weekly hours			Average hourly earnings		
	Sept* 1959	Aug 1959	Sept 1958	Sept* 1959	Aug 1959	Sept 1958	Sept* 1959	Aug 1959	Sept 1958
MANUFACTURING TOTAL	$ 91.57	$ 89.67	$ 87.14	42.2	42.1	41.3	$2.17	$2.13	$2.11
Durable goods	90.95	90.30	87.57	42.7	43.0	41.7	2.13	2.10	2.10
Nondurable goods	92.16	88.80	86.50	41.7	41.3	40.8	2.21	2.15	2.12
Primary metals	96.64	97.53	104.64	40.1	41.5	40.4	2.41	2.35	2.59
Machinery (except electrical)	96.32	97.90	87.95	43.3	43.9	41.1	2.24	2.23	2.14
Oil field machinery	102.97	108.42	95.06	42.2	44.8	40.8	2.44	2.42	2.33
Transportation equipment	112.34	109.48	104.01	41.3	40.7	39.7	2.72	2.69	2.62
Fabricated metal products	93.73	90.27	87.36	43.8	43.4	42.0	2.14	2.08	2.08
Lumber and wood products	61.96	60.78	58.18	47.3	46.4	45.1	1.31	1.31	1.29
Furniture and fixtures	71.18	70.04	72.11	43.4	43.5	43.7	1.64	1.61	1.65
Stone, clay and glass	74.93	78.06	70.39	41.4	44.1	41.9	1.81	1.77	1.68
Textile mill products	58.38	58.48	56.23	42.0	43.0	42.6	1.39	1.36	1.32
Broad woven goods	57.55	59.60	55.94	41.4	43.5	42.7	1.39	1.37	1.31
Apparel and fabric products	47.50	50.15	47.00	37.7	39.8	37.9	1.26	1.26	1.24
Food	81.62	77.71	76.36	44.6	42.7	42.9	1.83	1.82	1.78
Meat packing	102.78	91.20	88.43	44.3	40.0	39.3	2.32	2.28	2.25
Paper and allied products	105.08	99.39	100.32	45.1	43.4	44.0	2.33	2.29	2.28
Printing	95.62	93.41	94.62	38.4	38.6	38.0	2.49	2.42	2.49
Chemical and allied products	127.74	119.81	114.54	42.3	41.6	41.2	3.02	2.88	2.78
Petroleum and coal products	123.73	120.77	114.45	40.7	40.8	40.3	3.04	2.96	2.84
Leather	52.03	54.67	48.23	37.7	40.2	37.1	1.38	1.36	1.30
NONMANUFACTURING									
Mining	108.97	110.56	106.68	42.9	43.7	42.5	2.54	2.53	2.51
Crude petroleum	110.42	111.54	108.38	42.8	43.4	42.5	2.58	2.57	2.55
Sulphur	111.11	118.28	105.74	39.4	4.5	39.9	2.82	2.85	2.65
Public utilities	87.67	88.70	83.18	40.4	40.5	39.8	2.17	2.19	2.09
Retail trade	62.16	63.03	61.30	42.0	42.3	41.7	1.48	1.49	1.47
Wholesale trade	93.73	95.48	92.02	42.8	43.4	42.6	2.19	2.20	2.16

* Preliminary subject to revision upon receipt of additional reports.

† Figures cover only production workers in manufacturing and mining industries, and only nonsupervisory employees in other industry divisions. Earnings averages include premium pay for overtime, holidays, and for late-shift work.

Figures do not cover proprietors, firm members, other principal executives, or unpaid household workers.

BUILDING AUTHORIZED IN TEXAS

19 SELECTED CITIES

	Residential			Residential			Nonresidential			Nonresidential		
	Sept 1959	Sept 1958	% Change	Jan-Sept 1959	Jan-Sept 1958	% Change	Sept 1959	Sept 1958	% Change	Jan-Sept 1959	Jan-Sept 1958	% Change
Abilene	$ 1,484,198	$ 1,441,023	+ 5	$15,480,587	$10,434,502	+ 48	$ 453,220	$1,707,935	— 73	$ 6,861,443	$ 5,225,514	+ 31
Amarillo	1,502,760	2,05108,0	— 27	17,697,755	13,914,216	+ 27	177,972	962,767	— 82	9,124,952	5,520,955	+ 65
Austin	3,156,500	2,317,469	+ 36	25,636,700	17,750,369	+ 46	3,691,291	2,585,841	+ 43	16,018,618	17,014,202	— 6
Beaumont	602,389	747,392	— 19	6,143,867	7,565,915	— 19	649,691	164,619	+295	7,092,711	6,267,393	+ 13
Corpus Christi	162,695	931,350	— 83	6,880,458	9,621,240	— 28	800,904	171,305	+368	10,033,072	7,012,421	+ 43
Dallas	7,293,080	6,974,315	+ 5	69,357,153	59,159,397	+ 17	3,887,498	5,002,183	— 22	41,250,613	43,956,345	— 6
El Paso	5,714,410	4,445,082	+ 29	35,179,608	36,171,605	— 3	1,183,530	511,299	+131	10,778,580	8,982,799	+ 20
Fort Worth	1,654,050	2,923,252	— 43	22,736,834	19,967,836	+ 14	997,082	466,900	+114	18,399,359	15,534,859	+ 18
Garland	463,538	696,447	— 33	8,854,148	7,729,398	+ 15	23,273	1,219,485	— 98	1,972,214	2,895,416	— 32
Houston	8,989,640	14,104,034	— 37	99,991,125	108,749,317	— 8	4,477,398	5,472,403	— 18	36,259,352	46,358,280	— 22
Irving	1,056,893	616,674	+ 71	8,403,784	6,798,962	+ 24	219,154	25,185	+770	4,744,471	2,226,274	+113
Longview	433,000	587,500	— 26	5,359,700	5,268,000	+ 2	140,900	126,000	+ 12	776,617	3,436,168	— 78
Lubbock	2,156,760	3,837,678	— 44	27,037,844	21,016,569	+ 29	677,055	973,416	— 30	14,484,172	9,870,566	+ 47
Odessa	1,793,800	1,749,350	+ 3	13,211,200	17,115,555	— 23	421,890	633,475	— 33	8,791,909	4,829,818	+ 82
Port Arthur	81,072	182,822	— 56	1,539,396	1,867,585	— 18	373,484	78,747	+374	2,890,519	4,681,150	— 38
San Antonio	4,883,801	3,031,948	+ 61	29,955,472	28,473,113	+ 5	984,561	1,147,001	— 14	12,253,425	12,025,077	+ 2
Tyler	466,250	638,400	— 27	5,566,400	5,405,725	+ 3	122,700	10,800	+1036	2,410,134	2,840,200	— 15
Waco	521,975	503,855	+ 4	5,752,550	7,843,032	— 27	264,970	856,696	— 69	5,202,469	2,616,062	+ 99
Wichita Falls	545,800	506,547	+ 8	6,156,300	3,631,765	+ 70	155,700	221,600	— 30	3,800,006	2,467,476	+159

new homes in recent months, the seasonally adjusted residential index improved considerably in September, moving upward to 277 from 257 in August.

It has been frequently pointed out that for the past several years homebuilding in Texas has shown more strength than in the nation generally, even though the country as a whole has been in the middle of a homebuilding boom. There is now some evidence that the Texas lead is narrowing, and that home construction in the state may soon be at roughly the national pace. The latter, of course, is slowing, and home construction activity in Texas is in general subject to the same pressures that exist on the U. S. scene. The major downward pressure is the growing scarcity and the rising cost of mortgage money. Reports indicate that the money problem is not quite as great in Texas as elsewhere—mortgage money can be found at as much as ½% less than the going rate on the West Coast, for example—but rates have risen to the point where they are meeting considerable buyer resistance. The resistance is most noticeable on the part of the major portion of the homebuying public which finds it necessary to make its home purchases with low-down-payment, long-term mortgages, which in the case of virtually all new home purchases means VA- or FHA-guaranteed home loans. The maximum rate on FHA loans is now 5¾%, and when the FHA's ½% insurance and administrative charge is added, the home purchaser is paying 6¼% on even an FHA loan. This rate is itself high enough to create considerable buyer hesitation, and the cost of mortgage money is in most parts of the country, including Texas, already well beyond 5¾%. If a buyer secures a VA or FHA loan, someone must make up the difference between the maximum legal mortgage interest rate and the rate that can be earned by funds invested elsewhere; the only people who can make up the difference are the home buyer and/or the home builder.

A lender, in other words, at present will lend money on a home purchase only if he is able to "discount" the mortgage, either by actually lending less than the stated mortgage amount or by imposing a premium charge as part of the buyer's down payment. The former procedure is almost universally favored and is still for the most part followed, but there are limits to its use and in more and more parts of the country lenders are using the second to a greater extent. Where possible builders still either absorb the discount themselves or raise prices on their homes enough to maintain profit margins while absorbing the discount, but both these procedures become more difficult as discounts rise and builders face higher costs elsewhere. Furthermore, practically no home buyer is willing to purchase a house at a higher stated price than the FHA-appraised value, and these values tend to lag behind the upward movement of builders' costs. Increasingly, the alternative is to charge the home buyer with a cash premium when he receives a loan, in effect substantially increasing his down payment—a procedure that tends to encourage a wait-and-see attitude among prospective home purchasers.

The current money situation has created at least one compensation for realtors, however. It is stimulating a boom in the market for older homes, on most of which there are mortgages with what at present are extremely attractive interest rates. Also, in the new home market, resistance to higher interest rates is not as strong in the considerable segment of the public which finances home purchases with "conventional" mortgages.

The above considerations support the inference that the moderate August-to-September improvement in authorizations for new residential buildings in Texas is hardly a sign of new strength in the state's homebuilding industry. The demand for new homes is and will remain strong, but the relevant economic pressures are on balance downward at present. The outlook is for home construction in Texas to fall a bit further and level off until some significant change occurs in the general economy.

NONRESIDENTIAL

Contrary to expectations, September authorizations for new nonresidential buildings in Texas, after seasonal adjustment, fell moderately from August, following a severe decline from July in the earlier month. The estimated dollar value of September permits was $30,500,000, actually up

ESTIMATED VALUE OF BUILDING AUTHORIZED

Source: Bureau of Business Research in cooperation with the Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce

Classification	Sept 1959	January-September 1959	January-September 1958	Percent change Jan-Sept 1959 from Jan-Sept 1958
	Thousands of dollars			
CONSTRUCTION CLASS				
ALL PERMITS	101,427	978,765	918,774	+ 7
New construction	90,134	887,082	828,923	+ 8
Residential (housekeeping)	59,634	576,908	535,674	+ 8
One-family dwellings	53,494	538,196	489,511	+ 10
Nonresidential buildings	30,500	310,174	293,249	+ 6
Nonhousekeeping buildings (residential)	56	14,588	10,296	+ 42
Amusement buildings	850	9,859	8,526	+ 16
Churches	2,180	34,099	30,471	+ 12
Factories and workshops	912	25,432	18,237	+ 39
Garages (commercial and private)	832	4,146	3,707	+ 12
Service stations	1,006	7,075	7,406	— 4
Institutional buildings	2,853	17,879	13,023	+ 37
Office-bank buildings*	7,613	50,126	52,738	— 5
Works and utilities	128	9,800	12,186	— 20
Education buildings	6,745	54,292	68,797	— 21
Stores and mercantile buildings	6,336	70,396	56,352	+ 25
Other buildings and structures	989	12,482	11,510	+ 8
Additions, alterations, and repairs‡	11,293	100,693	89,850	+ 12
METROPOLITAN vs. NON-METROPOLITAN††				
Total metropolitan	73,624	726,844	693,241	+ 5
Central cities	65,519	623,033	591,065	+ 5
Outside central cities	8,105	103,811	102,176	+ 2
Total nonmetropolitan	27,803	251,921	225,533	+ 12
10,000 to 50,000 pop.	18,309	177,061	166,715	+ 6
Less than 10,000 pop.	9,494	74,860	58,818	+ 27

* Includes public (nonfederal) administration buildings beginning July 1957.

† Includes government (nonfederal) service buildings beginning July 1957.

‡ Includes additions and alterations to public buildings beginning July 1957.

†† As defined in 1950 census.

15% from the August figure, but the increase was considerably less than the usual August-to-September seasonal gain. The adjusted nonresidential index declined to 183 from 203 in the preceding month. At its September value it was at its lowest since the early months of the year. In contrast to residential authorizations, however, September nonresidential permits were up 3% from the same month last year. For the first three quarters the nonresidential category showed a 6% gain from January-September 1958.

In the August-to-September comparison, plus and minus signs were about evenly distributed through the individual nonresidential classifications. Best gains were shown in permits for new commercial garages (+1,918%, almost wholly because of a permit for a $330,000 structure in Dallas), hospitals and other institutional buildings (+239%), office-bank buildings (+83%), and schools (+44%); smaller gains were reported for private garages (+15%) and service stations (+35%). Decreases were reported in permits for new residential (nonhousekeeping) buildings (−96%, chiefly because of a 96% decline in tourist court authorizations), amusement buildings (−26%), churches (−13%), factories (−60%), utilities (−80%), and stores (−6%). Most of these percentages are altered sharply in the nine-month showing, which is much more significant. Major increases are shown for factories (+39%), hospitals (+37%), residential (nonhousekeeping) buildings (+42%), and stores (+25%); strong gains were also reported for amusement buildings (+16%, primarily as a result of the boom in bowling alley construction) and churches (+12%). On the other hand, for the year to date decreases from last year's permit level were posted by office-bank structures (−5%), utilities (−20%), and schools (−21%). Continued population growth makes the showing of the utility and school categories especially disappointing, but reports for the past few months on projected new plant and equipment expenditures in the state have also shown unexpected weakness. Though for the first nine months the year shows a 39% gain from 1958, the relative gain was substantially higher earlier in the year, and in the past few months such permits have run consistently below the comparable months a year ago. Evidently the recovery of the general economy from the recession has not yet been fully reflected in new industrial growth in Texas.

Agriculture:

TEXAS CABBAGE PRODUCTION: PROSPECTS FOR IMPROVEMENT

By JOE CARROLL RUST

Texas cabbage growers are turning toward the weatherman to bring them out of a production slump. Due to flooding in the Lower Rio Grande Valley in October 1958, a mid-December cold spell, and generally adverse growing conditions throughout the fall of 1958, the 1959 Texas cabbage crop fell far below that of 1958 (though final crop reporting figures for the 1959 harvest have not as yet been released through the U. S. Department of Agriculture). Estimates of 1960 production will be available in late December.

Cabbage in Texas is a winter crop, with planting beginning in August, continuing into January. Texas cabbage is primarily a salad crop, because of its mild, sweet flavor and crisp texture. The dietetic value of fresh green cabbage is far above that of the white Danish cold storage cabbage used for kraut.

Principal producing areas in Texas are the Lower Rio Grande Valley, the Coastal Bend, the Winter Garden, and the area around San Antonio. Counties contributing the major portion of 1958 Texas production were Cameron, Hidalgo, Willacy, Starr, Nueces, San Patricio, Dimmit, Medina, Uvalde, Zavala, and Bexar. According to the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, more than 90% of the total Texas cabbage crop is produced in the Lower Valley. Of 3,040 carlot shipments sent by rail from Texas' cabbage-producing areas in 1958, for instance, 1,755 were from Hidalgo, 850 from Cameron, and 299 from Willacy (a railroad car is equivalent to 500 fifty-pound sacks).

Cabbage production in the United States in 1958 was some 670,200 tons (fresh cabbage plus production for kraut). Of this, 304,800 tons (45.48%) was fresh winter cabbage, with Texas supplying 123,750 tons of the fresh crop, or 40.6% of total U. S. fresh cabbage production. Thus, in 1958 Texas supplied 18.46% of the nation's total

cabbage harvest. Value of the 1958 Texas production was $5,074,000, with growers receiving a season average price of $2.05 per hundredweight. In contrast, the 1949 crop was valued at $1,575,000, with a season average price of $.75.

Florida traditionally has been Texas' greatest competitor in winter cabbage production, supplying 100,750 tons for the fresh market in 1958, or 15.3% of the nation's total cabbage crop. California was the third highest producer of fresh winter cabbage in 1958; Arizona, fourth. New York leads the nation in production of cabbage for sauerkraut, supplying 76,000 tons in 1958. Only a small portion of the Texas crop is grown for kraut. For example, Crystal City Canneries, a division of Texas Brands, Inc., processes and cans sauerkraut, using produce of independent farmers. The nation's cabbage crop for kraut processing was 205,900 tons in 1958.

Harvest of the Texas cabbage crop usually begins in early November in the San Antonio area. Movement from the Winter Garden, Coastal Bend, and Valley begins the latter part of November, with supplies generally available in good volume from mid-December to April. The bulk of the crop is shipped in January, February, and March. A substantial part of the Texas harvest is shipped by both rail and truck to markets outside the state. In 1958, for example, 105 leading non-Texas cities from coast to coast served as terminal markets for Texas cabbage. Carlot shipments by rail were received as far away as Winnipeg, Manitoba.

PRODUCTION OF FRESH WINTER CABBAGE, LEADING STATES

Source: Agricultural Marketing Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture

State	Acreage				Production (1,000 cwt.)			
	Av. 1949–56	1957	1958	Ind. 1959	Av. 1949–56	1957	1958	Ind. 1959
Texas	20,620	11,500	16,500	16,000	2,322	1,380	2,475	1,440
Florida	16,880	13,900	15,500	18,000	3,421	2,224	2,015	3,060
Arizona	1,050	1,300	900	700	249	195	220	168
California	3,580	3,900	4,400	4,700	741	994	1,386	1,128

In December 1958 the U. S. Department of Agriculture reported 18,000 acres in Texas planted in cabbage for the 1959 crop. Following the floods of October and the December cold wave (even though cabbage is a cold weather crop, it can be damaged by prolonged temperatures in the mid-20's or by rapid thawing), the U.S.D.A. in March 1959 reported 16,000 acres in cabbage with indicated production of 72,000 tons. Acreage for Florida in March was given as 18,000, indicated production as 153,000 tons.

Yield per acre from the Texas crop usually stands lower than that of the Florida crop. However, in 1958 Texas produced 15,000 pounds of cabbage per acre harvested; Florida, 13,000. Crop indication reports for March 1959 estimated Texas production at 9,000 pounds per acre for 1959; Florida, at 17,000. In tests conducted by the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station at College Station in October 1954, yields of up to 19.8 tons per acre of U. S. No. 1 cabbage were produced. The average weight of each marketable head was 2.6 pounds.

Preparing the land for cabbage production entails a series of plowings, diskings, and grading of the soil. When plants are put out during hot weather, immediate irrigation is recommended. Phosphate fertilizer should be applied deep in the soil at the time of planting to balance any overdose of nitrogen fertilizer and to aid in the development of solid heads. Seed is planted from one-fourth to one-half inch deep, depending on the type of soil, seeds being planted shallower in heavier soils (cabbage seed holds its growing potency up to five years).

Texas cabbagemen utilize two types of cabbage seeding. Direct-seeded cabbage is usually planted in paired rows spaced 20 inches apart, with plants 14 inches apart. Such a planting requires from two to three pounds of seed per acre. One pound of good viable seed produces about 20,000 plants. The crop must be thinned when the plants have reached approximately three inches, with a second thinning when about six inches high.

A transplanted crop is actually the result of the first thinning operation. Cabbage plants are pulled while the ground is moist, retaining as much of the root system as possible. Plants are sometimes spaded from the earth with a dibble if the soil is hard-packed. Culls are discarded, and the seedlings packed in field boxes or rolled up on wet sacks. The bundles are transported to the field and the seedlings dropped into the holes already prepared for their planting.

Cabbage can follow successfully most farm crops in crop rotation except itself or its near relatives—broccoli, cauliflower, and collards. Transplanted cabbage is often grown on cotton land, and the direct-seeded crop on land that produced spring crops such as beans, peas, sweet corn, tomatoes, or vine crops.

Cabbage is a lime-loving plant, more tolerant of saline-alkaline soils than other vegetable crops, and partial to sandy loam. As cabbage draws large quantities of nitrogen from the soil, growers should plow under a heavy green manure crop before planting and add some 60 pounds of nitrogen per acre. An additional 40 pounds per acre may be needed when the heads have attained a diameter of approximately three inches. However, heavy application of nitrogen alone may cause puffy, loose heads.

A major part of seedbed management is the use of irrigation water to germinate the seed and start the young seedlings. With cabbage growing requiring an abundance of water, some 98% of the Texas commercial crop is under irrigation. Frequent light sprinklings are needed to keep the soil cool, especially in August and September. Heavier water applications are needed as the plants progress, with approximately one inch of irrigation water on one-fourth inch plants, the rate increasing to three inches in the latter part of the crop year.

Frequent watering of cabbage, however, creates a new problem for the cabbage grower—weed control. Weeds must be cut by hand during periods of heavy watering, as

Bureau of Business Research Publications

Texas Industrial Expansion

September-October 1959

by

Stanley A. Arbingast, Assistant Director
Robert H. Drenner, Research Associate

A bimonthly supplement to the Directory of Texas Manufacturers. Industrial construction projects announced during September-October 1959 are listed with data on cost, products, and number of employees. Twenty-five cents each.

CARLOAD SHIPMENTS OF LIVESTOCK*

Source: Bureau of Business Research in cooperation with Agricultural Marketing Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture

Classification	Sept 1959	Aug 1959	Sept 1958	Percent change: Sept '59 from Aug '59	Percent change: Sept '59 from Sept '58
TOTAL	3,377	2,257	3,395	+ 50	— 1
Cattle	2,520	1,560	2,465	+ 62	+ 2
Calves	623	497	749	+ 25	— 17
Sheep	234	200	181	+ 17	+ 29
INTERSTATE	3,090	1,996	3,052	+ 55	+ 1
Cattle	2,301	1,374	2,199	+ 67	+ 5
Calves	562	433	678	+ 30	— 17
Sheep	227	189	175	+ 20	+ 30
INTRASTATE	287	261	343	+ 10	— 16
Cattle	219	186	266	+ 18	— 18
Calves	61	64	71	— 5	— 14
Sheep	7	11	6	— 36	+ 17

* Rail-car basis: Cattle, 30 head per car; calves, 60; hogs, 80, and sheep, 250.

the soil is too wet to support heavy cutting equipment. Cost of producing cabbage for the December market (cabbage makes in from 79–105 days) thus is upped by the water and weed problem. December cost, however, is often exceeded by the cost of growing cabbage which matures in March. In this latter part of the growing season, insects become the grower's greatest problem.

Texas' cabbage crop is composed of a number of varieties. One of the most popular varieties over the past 30 years has been Glory of Enkhuizen. A variation of the Glory, the Globe, has become popular as a high-yielding, round-headed solid cabbage. It, however, shares the drawback of its parent strain, that of being susceptible to cabbage yellows. A smaller and earlier-maturing variety, but one which is both resistant to yellows and splitting, is Marion Market. Round Dutch is an old variety, and one with low yield. Savoy Chieftain is a late-maturing variety of the crinkle-leafed type. While Red Acre and Round Red Dutch are the most widely planted red cabbage varieties in the state. In general, early maturing heads usually produce greater yield per acre but are often vulnerable to frost damage because the heads are not covered by outside wrapper leaves.

Cabbage, a member of the crucifer (or mustard) family, suffers from attacks of a number of insects and diseases which are troublesome to many of the other members of that family. Fire ants, cutworms, "bud" worms, loopers, plutella, aphids, and thrips are especially annoying to the Valley cabbage grower. These are best controlled in the state's cabbage growing areas by parathion, malathion, and nicotine dust. Insecticides are seldom used within 30 days of harvest.

Fusarium conglutinans, or cabbage yellows, is the most common cabbage disease. Control of the disease is best attained through the planting of yellow-resistant varieties, such as Globe, Marion Market, and Resistant Copenhagen. Downy mildew, which is spread by blowing rain, is best controlled by a spray of maneb, while black rot can be curbed by soaking the cabbage seed in a bichloride-of-mercury bath. Damping-off, caused by a soil fungus called Rhizoctonia, may be prevented by rotation and crop fumigation. Heads sometimes become infested with decay-producing fungi while in storage because of bruises inflicted during harvest. Thus, several wrapper leaves are usually left on the heads for bruise padding.

Industrial Production:

THE TEXAS SHOE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

By CANDLER P. CASS

Although Texas has gained world fame for traditionally producing very high quality boots, belts, saddles and other fine leather products, the state has never been important in the field of shoe production. Since the end of World War II, however, the number of smaller shoe factories in the state has grown steadily. There are now eighteen companies in Texas that manufacture leather dress, work and play shoes. In addition, Alco Ranch Washable Footwear, Inc., of San Angelo puts out a line of washable rubber footwear that is sold throughout the nation and in several foreign countries.

Only five of Texas' present eighteen shoe manufacturers were operating before the outbreak of World War II. According to the 1941 *Directory of Texas Manufacturers* there were nine shoe factories operating in the state before World War II, but apparently four of them were forced to either merge with other companies or close down because of the familiar wartime difficulties. While the country was returning to normal peacetime operations after the war's end, five new shoe factories started in the state. Two of these, Bimbi Mfg. Co. of San Antonio and the Ranger Boot and Shoe Mfg. Co., Inc., at Terrell, are now among the largest shoe manufacturers in Texas (the latter firm will soon move to a new, larger plant in Killeen). In fact, all of the companies that started during the late 1940's have been successful and have, to some extent at least, expanded their production.

After this first rush to open up new shoe factories as soon as material, labor, and machinery became available, the state's shoe industry kept right on expanding. Linda Jo Shoe Co. was established at Gainesville, and by 1950 two shoe companies had been established in Temple. In addition, one of the state's oldest and largest boot manufacturers, H. J. Justin & Sons, Inc., in Fort Worth, started a line of men's dress shoes; before the war the other large boot company of the state, Nocona Boot Co., had added the manufacture of a line of shoes.

The Texas shoe industry is still relatively small in comparison with the size of the industry in several other sections of the United States. A third of Texas' shoe manufacturers employ less than 10 persons and the majority of them make boots, moccasins, and other leather products in addition to shoes. This state has shoe companies ranging

Total Electric Power Use in Texas

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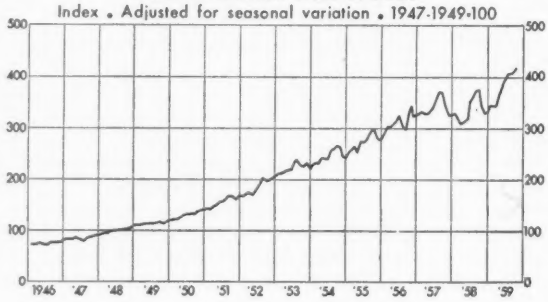

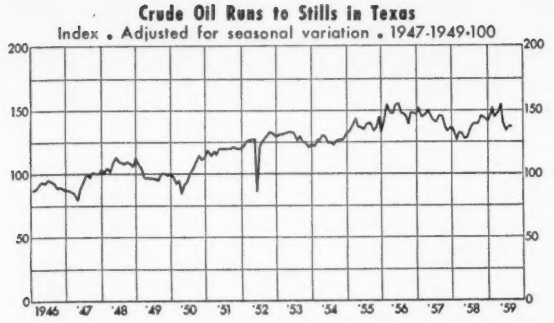
Crude Oil Runs to Stills in Texas
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200
150
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1946 '47 '48 '49 '50 '51 '52 '53 '54 '55 '56 '57 '58 '59

in size all the way from small concerns like Big Spring's Ramirez Boot Shop, whose main business is making shoes to special order, up to firms that employ more than 250 persons; no shoe factory in the state, however, employs more than 500 persons. Some of the larger shoe manufacturers in New England and the Middle West employ over 1,000 workers. For example, the average shoe factory in Massachusetts employs over 250 production personnel, while the average Texas firm has less than 100. However, ten Texas companies now distribute their products nationally while two others market part of their production out of the country. Even for the ones that confine their production to the Texas market the prospect of growing sales opportunities is exceptionally bright.

The prospect of future growth in shoe sales in Texas and the Southwest is in large measure based upon population trends in the region. Consumption of shoes is closely correlated with the population in a given area; thus, increases in population mean proportional increases in shoe

WELL COMPLETIONS
Source: *The Oil and Gas Journal*

Region	September 1959*				Jan-Sept	
	Oil	Gas	Dry	Total	1959	1958
TEXAS	959	69	617	1,645	14,249	13,248
Southwest	94	16	91	201	1,828	1,601
Gulf Coast	74	10	90	174	1,500	1,510
East	83	1	43	127	937	921
North Central	280	14	250	544	4,635	4,451
West	358	7	122	487	4,359	3,809
Panhandle	70	21	21	112	990	956

* For five weeks ending October 3.

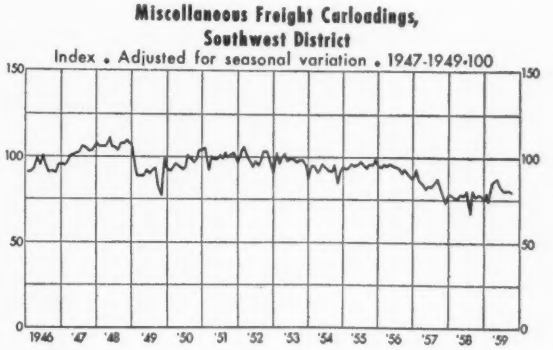
sales in the given area. Currently, well over 30 million pairs of shoes are being sold in Texas annually. The state, that is, already constitutes a sizable market for shoes. Moreover, the state's population is growing at a rate of about 2.4% each year. Added to this is the fact that income per spending unit, which also has a decided effect on shoe sales, is increasing. All of this points toward greatly expanding sales opportunities in Texas alone for years to come. The same conditions prevail throughout the Southwest, promising increasing shoe demand in this whole area. Since at the present time it is much more economical to locate shoe factories near the retail outlet rather than adjacent to the source of raw materials, present sales trends and future prospects indicate that Texas would be an ideal location for a major shoe factory.

There are, however, reasons why no major shoe factories have ever located in the state. Some of these reasons are to be found in the history of the industry itself. When the American shoe industry first converted from roving cobblers into organized factories, it was believed that it was economically advisable to locate shoe factories adjacent to the primary source of raw materials, i.e., near tanneries. Since most of the nation's tanneries were located in the East and Northeast, the newly formed shoe factories naturally gravitated to this area, mostly to New England. It is also true, of course, that at this time the country's center of population was very near the East Coast. Furthermore, in the early days "ready-made" shoes were not as universally worn as they are now. For example, most of the Southern planters had shoes for themselves, their families, and their people made to order in the local community. Thus, the bulk of the factory-made shoe market was composed of the cities and farm communities of the North.

The nation's population center, and consequently the center of the country's shoe market, has steadily moved westward and now is located near the geographical center of the nation. The differential freight rate system in use today makes it much more economical to ship tanned hides some distance to shoe factories than to ship finished shoes a long way to retail outlets. Therefore it has become much more feasible to locate new shoe factories near the center of the United States. Mainly because of this, there has been a decided decentralization in the country's shoe industry in the past decade. So far, however, none of the larger shoe manufacturers have relocated in the state of Texas.

As with the shoe industry, the reason why most of the nation's large tanneries are in the New England or Mid-Atlantic states is also to be found in industrial history. In the late seventeenth century when the tanning industry first came to America, the most practical method and therefore the one most commonly used was a form of vegetable tanning which required large amounts of oak and hemlock bark. Since large stands of both grow in the New England region the country's first large tanneries located in this area. But the eventual development of the leaching process, whereby tanning agents could be extracted from tree bark and brought to the tannery, and then the development of the chome process, to an extent freed the tanneries from the necessity of a location adjacent to a forest. The present-day chemical tanning process entirely eliminates the necessity of a tannery being located near such a source of tanning agents.

There is still, however, one very important factor involved in determining the location of a new tannery. The factor is water. A *sine qua non* to the tanning of hides into leather is an ample supply of comparatively soft water with a very low ferrous content. To give an idea of the amount needed, the smallest tannery that can operate efficiently



must process around 200 hides per day. An average hide requires about 250 gallons of water to complete the tanning process; therefore, a tannery operated at the smallest economically feasible output must have a daily supply of at least 50,000 gallons of water. Some parts of Texas, of course, cannot furnish the quantity of water necessary, while other sections do not have water of the proper chemical content. Some areas of the state, however, have water of the required chemical content in ample supply.

The real deterrent to the establishment of a large tannery in Texas or the Southwest is overcapacity in the existing New England tanneries. The restrictions on international transportation of hides and tanned leather during World War II forced European countries to build their own tanneries, thereby greatly reducing an important market of the American tanning industry. Additional markets were lost shortly after the war as South American countries also went increasingly into the tanning business. These factors largely explain why investors today find that existing tanneries in the North can be bought for a fraction of what it would cost to build a new one in Texas.

The production of a pair of shoes is a very complex process requiring around 200 individual operations. However, modern shoe factories are so highly mechanized that the average worker can perform a great many operations in a short time. The use of machines also makes it possible for one employee to perform all the operations of a single type. In many smaller shoe factories, such as the Little Boot Shop of San Antonio, one employee can perform a sufficiently large number of different types of operations to make it possible for even a small manufacturer to turn out a large number of pairs of shoes per day. Leather-cutting operations require a great deal of employee skill and are also relatively slow, and the lasting operation takes time for the shoe to set but demands comparatively little attention; all the other operations connected with the construction of a pair of shoes can be done very quickly with the aid of the appropriate shoe-making equipment.

Nine of the eighteen shoe manufacturers in Texas employ less than 25 workers each. This half of the Texas industry shows a variety of characteristics. For example, one Texas company, the Thomas Shoe Factory at Wichita Falls, manufactures special orthopedic shoes which require individual designing and especially careful construction. A few of the state's shoe companies, like the Holick Boot Shop at College Station, are old producers of hand-made boots but have recently begun the manufacture of fine made-to-order shoes. Some of the firms, like the Star Boot & Shoe Shop of Raymondville, put out shoes and boots for the local trade, while others, like Palance Boot Shop, Inc., in Houston, produce for a national market.

Ordinary Life Insurance Sales in Texas*

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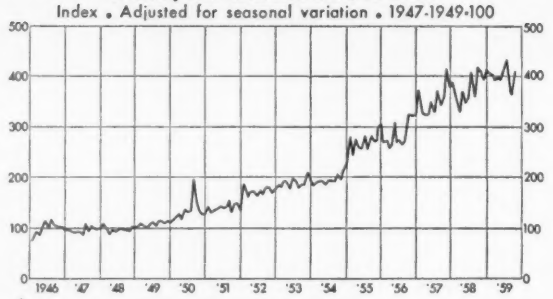

*Face amount of ordinary life insurance policies sold.

A considerable segment of the Texas shoe industry, including mostly smaller companies, is primarily engaged in the production of casual or play-type shoes. In fact, two of the state's smaller companies, J & W Leathercraft Co. at Robert Lee and Baugh's in Temple are both nationally-known manufacturers of sandals, while the Star Boot & Shoe Shop makes sandals as well as boots and shoes for the local market around Raymondville. The manufacturing process involved in the production of a pair of sandals is much simpler than that required for the production of a pair of shoes. Therefore a manufacturer of this type of footwear can turn out a sizable inventory per day with comparatively few employees. One of the larger producers of play shoes in the state is El Paso's Tony Lama Co., Inc., which like several other shoe factories in the state also manufactures boots and moccasins.

The trend toward informal living that is now taking place over the country may spell a big future for those Texas manufacturers who specialize in the more informal type of footwear. The general trend over the past decade has been for shoe producers to use more and more materials other than leather; play shoes, moccasins and casual shoes have steadily increased their share of the market, particularly in the Southwest and the West where people live outdoors a great deal. In fact, Donn's Originals of San Angelo started in 1956 just to cater to fun-loving Texans by putting out lines of casual shoes, moccasins, and other leather products especially for outdoor enjoyment.

NEW publication

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Retail Trade:

SEPTEMBER SALES DOWN FROM AUGUST BUT ABOVE A YEAR AGO

By ROBERT H. DRENNER

Dollar sales. Total retail sales in Texas in September were an estimated $1,107.7 million, down 6% from the preceding month but 5% above sales in September 1958. For the January-September period the total was $9,946.6 million, a 7% improvement from the same period a year ago.

The 6% decline in Texas in September contrasted with a 2% drop in sales on the national level. In August, however, sales in the nation fell 1% while Texas trade showed a 3% gain. For the first three quarters retail trade in the state showed a slightly greater gain from last year than did U. S. sales, which were up 6% for the nine-month period.

Nondurable goods sales in Texas in September were estimated at $844.5 million, unchanged from the preceding August and 3% above September 1958. January-September also posted a 3% gain from the same period last year. September sales of durables, however, at an estimated $263.3 million, were down a sharp 21% from the preceding month, though the September figure was still 13% above the same month a year earlier. For the first nine months, sales of durable goods in Texas were up 19% from January-September 1958.

ESTIMATES OF TOTAL RETAIL SALES IN TEXAS
(Unadjusted for seasonal variation)

Type of store	Sept 1959	Jan-Sept 1959	Percent change: Sept '59 from Aug '59	Percent change: Sept '59 from Sept '58	Percent change: Jan-Sept '59 from Jan-Sept '58
	Millions of dollars				
Total	1,107.7	9,946.5	— 6	+ 5	+ 7
Durable goods*	263.3	2,821.5	— 21	+ 13	+ 19
Nondurable goods	844.5	7,125.0	**	+ 3	+ 3

* Contains automotive stores, furniture stores, and lumber, building material and hardware stores.

** Change is less than one-half of one percent.

RETAIL SALES TRENDS BY KINDS OF BUSINESS

Source: Bureau of Business Research in cooperation with the Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce

Kind of business	Number of reporting establishments	Percent change: Normal seasonal* Sept '59 from Aug '59	Percent change: Actual Sept '59 from Aug '59	Percent change: Actual Sept '59 from Sept '58	Percent change: Actual Jan-Sept '59 from Jan-Sept '58
DURABLE GOODS					
Automotive stores	264	— 9	— 24	+ 17	+ 21
Furniture & household appliance stores	151	— 8	— 15	+ 4	+ 11
Lumber, building material, and hardware stores	284	— 4	— 6	+ 5	+ 11
NONDURABLE GOODS					
Apparel stores	206	+ 15	— 1	+ 2	+ 6
Drug stores	146	— 1	+ 2	+ 6	+ 5
Eating and drinking places	82	— 4	— 6	— 1	+ 2
Food stores	285	+ 2	— 2	— 1	— 2
Gasoline and service stations	357	— 4	+ 9	+ 10	+ 5
General merchandise stores	203	+ 4	— 5	+ 1	+ 5
Other retail stores	196	+ 5	+ 3	+ 9	+ 10

* Average seasonal change from preceding month to current month.

August indexes. Since over-all September sales in Texas ordinarily show little change from August, the actual dollar decline caused a corresponding drop in the seasonally adjusted index of total sales, which fell from 226 in August to 213—but at which level it was still substantially above the average value of the index last year (192). Dollar sales of nondurables, on the other hand, customarily improve from August to September, and the adjusted index consequently fell moderately from July's 251 to 244—still up sharply, however, from last year's average index value of 208. The September durables index showed a more marked decline to 154 from 179 in August. At this level it was only 6 points above the 1958 average value of 160.

Sales by store types. In the nondurables category, the greatest variation from the customary seasonal sales pattern was exhibited by apparel stores, which in contrast to an expected August-to-September 15% sales gain actually dropped 1% below sales in the earlier month (though the September figure was 2% above September 1958 and the nine-month total 6% over January-September of last year). September sales by food stores, eating and drinking places, general merchandise stores, jewelry stores, and liquor stores were also lower than expected. But sales by drug stores, gasoline and service stations, florists, and office, store, and school supply dealers were stronger than seasonally anticipated.

All of the August-to-September decline in total sales was caused by the disappointing showing of the durables category. Most influential was the 26% drop from August in sales of automobiles, although compared with September

CREDIT RATIOS IN DEPARTMENT AND APPAREL STORES

Classification	Number of reporting stores	Credit ratios* Sept 1959	Credit ratios* Sept 1958	Collection ratios** Sept 1959	Collection ratios** Sept 1958
ALL STORES	59	72.8	71.5	35.7	37.4
BY CITIES					
Austin	5	64.4	63.4	46.4	46.7
Bryan	3	66.7	41.4	42.3	44.0
Cleburne	3	51.0	40.7	44.6	40.3
Dallas	5	82.9	83.5	39.4	40.6
El Paso	3	58.7	61.6	26.1	25.1
Fort Worth	3	69.2	70.0	29.1	33.2
Galveston	4	64.2	66.4	42.2	40.1
Houston	3	83.4	76.3	39.7	41.0
San Antonio	4	74.5	70.6	37.8	44.4
Waco	5	60.3	61.1	41.4	40.8
BY TYPE OF STORE					
Department stores (over $1 million)	19	74.7	73.6	34.9	36.8
Department stores (under $1 million)	16	45.4	45.6	37.0	38.6
Dry goods and apparel stores	5	76.9	75.6	53.1	49.6
Women's specialty shops	12	69.9	66.9	37.1	38.8
Men's clothing stores	7	66.3	66.8	40.5	41.1
BY VOLUME OF NET SALES					
Over $1,500,000	22	74.4	73.1	35.5	37.2
$500,000 to $1,500,000	12	58.0	59.5	39.5	41.5
$250,000 to $500,000	13	52.8	48.2	37.4	40.1
Less than $250,000	12	52.0	52.0	37.4	34.5

* Credit sales divided by net sales.

** Collections during the month divided by accounts unpaid on the first of the month.

POSTAL RECEIPTS

City	Aug 22–Sept 18 1959	July 25–Aug 21 1959	Aug 23–Sept 19 1958	Percent change: Aug 22–Sept 18 1959 from July 25–Aug 21 1959	Percent change: Aug 22–Sept 18 1959 from Aug 23–Sept 19 1958
Borger	$14,007	.....	$18,428	.....	— 24
Brownfield	8,115	9,036	8,222	— 10	— 1
Cameron	6,025	3,901	5,265	+ 54+	+ 14
Childress	4,602	3,843	3,892	+ 20	+ 18
Coleman	6,090	4,894	5,438	+ 24	+ 12
Crystal City	2,958	2,711	2,588	+ 9	+ 14
Cuero	5,047	5,565	5,141	— 9	— 2
Denison	16,270	19,646	15,448	— 17	+ 5
Eagle Pass	5,704	5,778	5,732	— 1	**
Edna	4,217	4,911	5,031	— 14	— 16
El Campo	8,736	9,653	8,627	— 9	+ 1
Gainesville	11,375	13,126	12,127	— 13	— 6
Gatesville	3,395	4,832	3,734	— 30	— 9
Graham	7,673	8,051	7,250	— 5	+ 6
Granbury	3,338	3,214	3,844	+ 4	— 13
Hale Center	1,460	1,477	1,730	— 1	— 16
Hillsboro	6,484	5,706	6,854	+ 14	— 5
Huntsville	7,940	9,188	10,544	— 14	— 25
Kenedy	3,392	3,279	3,296	+ 3	+ 3
Kermit	7,083	6,774	6,987	+ 5	+ 1
Kerrville	10,672	10,822	10,487	— 1	+ 2
Kingsville	13,004	12,284	18,366	+ 6	— 29
Kirbyville	3,024	2,716	2,193	+ 11	+ 38
La Grange	4,056	4,065	4,706	**	— 14
Levelland	6,895	7,040	7,009	— 2	— 2
Littlefield	4,573	9,049	5,446	— 49	— 16
Llano	3,331	1,703	1,733	+ 96	+ 92
McCamey	2,84[illegible]	6,221	2,935	— 54	— 3
Marlin	6,97[illegible]	6,543	6,707	+ 7	+ 4
Mission	7,3[illegible]	8,141	7,032	— 8	+ 7
Navasota	4,1[illegible]	4,791	4,614	— 14	— 10
Odessa	59,368	66,692	60,641	— 11	— 2
Pecos	12,750	12,822	13,899	— 1	— 8
Pittsburg	3,410	2,508	2,892	+ 36	+ 18
Sinton	8,609	10,455	5,425	— 18	+ 59
Taft	2,526	2,695	2,534	— 6	**
Terrell	6,895	7,449	8,399	— 7	— 18
Waxahachie	11,182	9,850	16,099	+ 14	— 31
Weatherford	7,856	9,662	8,149	— 19	— 4
Yoakum	9,650	9,535	.....	+ 1	.....

** Change is less than one-half of one percent.

1958 the classification was up an encouraging 18% and the nine-month period posted an even greater 22% gain. The other two major durables classifications also showed greater declines than seasonally normal. Sales by furniture and household appliance stores were down 15% from August, and sales by lumber, building material, and hardware stores fell off 6% from the preceding month. However, both these categories also recorded respectable gains from sales in the corresponding 1958 periods.

Volume of department and apparel stores. Total September sales by Texas department and apparel stores were down 3% from August but were 2% above September 1958; for the first three quarters they were 6% above January-September 1959. Month-to-month sales comparisons among individual Texas cities varied greatly; there was a much greater degree of uniformity in the nine-month showing. Strong gains in September from August were shown by department and apparel stores in Abilene (+5%), Austin (+5%), Big Spring (+26%), Brownwood (+8%), Dallas (+5%), El Paso (+11%), San Angelo (+9%), and Texarkana (+8%). Declines, on the other hand, were reported from Amarillo (—5%), Beaumont (—4%), Corpus Christi (—6%), Fort Worth (—1%), Galveston (—6%), Houston (—8%), Lubbock (—1%), Port Arthur (—3%), and San Antonio (—12%). The preponderance of declines in sales by such stores in the larger metropolitan areas was chiefly responsible for the statewide 3% drop in the category.

Newspaper Advertising Linage

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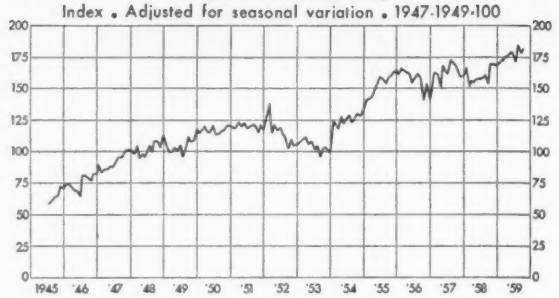

Sales in Texas cities. Among the 26 cities reporting enough retailers to permit individual city retail sales listings, all but two reported total sales declines from August; Lubbock (+5%) and San Angelo (+2%) were the exceptions to the general trend. August-to-September decreases in the state's largest cities were typical: Austin (−12%), Dallas (−3%), El Paso (−4%), Fort Worth (−4%), Houston (−8%), and San Antonio (−11%). However, total September sales in only three of the 26 cities were below the same month last year: Houston (−3%), Sherman (−2%), and Temple (−1%). For the nine-month period only Port Arthur (−2%) among the 26 failed to show a substantial sales gain.

REVENUE RECEIPTS OF THE STATE COMPTROLLER

Source: State Comptroller of Public Accounts

Account	September 1959	September 1958	Percent change
TOTAL	$84,721,501	$66,121,722	+ 28
Ad valorem, inheritance, and poll taxes	896,544	765,252	+ 17
Natural and casinghead gas production taxes	3,848,878	3,342,648	+ 15
Crude oil production taxes	9,031,462	9,487,521	— 5
Other gross receipts and production taxes	457,779	392,227	+ 17
Insurance companies and other occupation taxes	19,278	76,382	— 75
Motor fuel taxes (net)	15,914,549	14,784,141	+ 8
Cigarette tax and licenses	4,326,860	4,409,062	— 2
Alcoholic beverage taxes and licenses	4,177,325	3,700,234	+ 13
Automobile and other sales taxes	1,722,583	1,492,464	+ 15
All licenses and fees	3,832,947	3,928,733	— 2
Franchise taxes	4,410,306	283,794	+1,454
Mineral leases, land sales, rentals, and bonuses	728,860	552,688	+ 32
Oil and gas royalties	2,251,160	2,348,477	— 4
Interest earned	2,117,271	2,409,917	— 12
Unclassified receipts	1,221,410	1,378,333	— 11
Other miscellaneous revenue	1,166,076	1,413,790	— 18
Federal aid for highways	15,634,120	2,981,281	+424
Federal aid for public welfare	9,832,983	11,010,003	— 11
Other federal aid	3,084,446	1,289,008	+139
Donations and grants	46,664	75,767	— 38

Local Business Conditions

City and item	Sept 1959	Percent Change: Sept 1959 from Aug 1959	Percent Change: Sept 1959 from Sept 1958
ABILENE (pop. 62,500[r])			
Retail sales	— 1†	— 20	+ 10
Apparel stores	+ 15†	+ 6	+ 2
General merchandise stores	+ 4†	+ 5	+ 3
Postal receipts* $	89,853	— 4	**
Building permits, less federal contracts $	1,974,733	— 15	— 39
Bank debits (thousands) $	101,724	+ 11	+ 14
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡ $	63,782	— 1	+ 3
Annual rate of deposit turnover	19.1	+ 11	+ 9
Employment (area)	32,550	— 3	+ 4
Manufacturing employment (area)	3,390	— 2	+ 3
Percent unemployed (area)	4.6	+ 5	— 15
ALICE (pop. 22,945[r])			
Retail sales			
Lumber, building material, and hardware stores	— 4†	— 6	+ 27
Postal receipts* $	14,910	+ 3	+ 9
Building permits, less federal contracts $	60,405	— 45	+166
ALPINE (pop. 5,261)			
Postal receipts* $	4,395	+ 32	+ 26
Building permits, less federal contracts $	2,700	— 92	.....
Bank debits (thousands) $	2,651	+ 13	+ 23
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡ $	3,804	+ 2	+ 8
Annual rate of deposit turnover	8.4	+ 11	+ 12
AMARILLO (pop. 147,949[r])			
Retail sales	— 1†	— 5	+ 19
Apparel stores	+ 15†	— 5	+ 16
Automotive stores	— 9†	— 1	+ 29
Drug stores	— 1†	— 6	— 6
Eating and drinking places	— 4†	— 21	+ 19
Food stores	+ 2†	— 3	— 4
Furniture and household appliance stores	— 8†	— 5	+ 26
Gasoline and service stations	— 4†	— 12	+ 22
Liquor stores	.....	— 10	— 1
Lumber, building material, and hardware stores	— 4†	— 13	+ 2
Postal receipts* $	165,596	**	— 2
Building permits, less federal contracts $	1,891,593	— 57	— 42
Bank debits (thousands) $	226,365	— 3	+ 15
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡ $	115,317	— 3	— 1
Annual rate of deposit turnover	23.3	— 1	+ 15
Employment (area)	52,300	+ 1	+ 4
Manufacturing employment (area)	5,920	— 1	+ 6
Percent unemployed (area)	2.5	— 14	— 37
ARLINGTON (pop. 45,340[r])			
Postal receipts* $	35,388	+ 18	+ 22
Building permits, less federal contracts $	168,533	— 87	— 86
Employment (area)	207,300	+ 1	+ 2
Manufacturing employment (area)	55,650	**	— 1
Percent unemployed (area)	4.0	— 9	— 30
BAY CITY (pop. 14,042[r])			
Postal receipts* $	10,223	+ 7	— 8
Bank debits (thousands) $	15,254	+ 31	+ 11
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡ $	20,072	+ 3	+ 4
Annual rate of deposit turnover	9.3	.....	+ 7
BAYTOWN (pop. 28,945[r])			
Postal receipts* $	21,233	— 8	— 4
Building permits, less federal contracts $	381,820	+ 42	+ 67
Bank debits (thousands) $	21,393	+ 8	+ 3
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡ $	22,147	— 2	— 6
Annual rate of deposit turnover	11.4	+ 11	+ 3
Employment (area)	485,000	**	+ 6
Manufacturing employment (area)	92,200	— 1	**
Percent unemployed (area)	4.1	**	— 40

City and item	Sept 1959	Percent Change: Sept 1959 from Aug 1959	Percent Change: Sept 1959 from Sept 1958
AUSTIN (pop. 197,000[r])			
Retail sales	— 1†	— 12	+ 5
Apparel stores	+ 14†	+ 16	+ 19
Automotive stores	— 9†	— 34	+ 14
Drug stores	— 1†	+ 3	+ 5
Eating and drinking places	— 4†	+ 13	+ 1
Furniture and household appliance stores	— 8†	— 17	**
Gasoline and service stations	— 4†	**	+ 3
General merchandise stores	+ 4†	**	+ 4
Lumber, building material, and hardware stores	— 4†	— 14	**
Postal receipts* $	346,580	+ 4	+ 14
Building permits, less federal contracts $	7,294,126	+ 44	+ 38
Bank debits (thousands) $	201,750	— 8	+ 2
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡ $	143,047	— 4	+ 20
Annual rate of deposit turnover	16.6	— 2	— 14
Employment (area)	72,800	**	+ 3
Manufacturing employment (area)	5,840	**	+ 5
Percent unemployed (area)	3.1	— 9	— 22
BEAUMONT (pop. 122,485[r])			
Retail sales	— 1†	— 11	+ 20
Apparel stores	+ 15†	+ 7	+ 2
Automotive stores	— 9†	— 24	+ 29
Eating and drinking places	— 4†	— 3	+ 4
Furniture and household appliance stores	— 8	— 18	+ 2
General merchandise stores	+ 4†	— 8	+ 11
Lumber, building material, and hardware stores	— 4†	**	+ 75
Postal receipts* $	100,389	— 12	+ 1
Building permits, less federal contracts $	1,350,826	+ 3	+ 33
Bank debits (thousands) $	162,236	+ 8	+ 10
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡ $	100,636	+ 2	— 2
Annual rate of deposit turnover	19.6	+ 8	+ 14
Employment (area)	105,700	+ 1	+ 3
Manufacturing employment (area)	33,470	+ 1	— 1
Percent unemployed (area)	3.3	— 17	— 24
BEEVILLE (pop. 15,105[r])			
Retail sales			
Furniture and household appliance stores	— 8†	— 41	— 16
Lumber, building material, and hardware stores	— 4†	— 18	— 5
Postal receipts* $	10,459	— 4	— 11
Building permits, less federal contracts $	81,647	— 47	— 10
Bank debits (thousands) $	10,306	— 4	+ 10
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡ $	13,924	— 2	+ 6
Annual rate of deposit turnover	8.8	— 3	+ 9
BIG SPRING (pop. 30,433[r])			
Retail sales	— 1†	— 9	+ 11
Apparel stores	+ 15†	+ 35	— 3
Automotive stores	— 9†	— 24	+ 10
Drug stores	— 1†	— 2	+ 11
Lumber, building material, and hardware stores	— 4†	+ 2	+ 11
Postal receipts* $	23,498	— 11	+ 10
Building permits, less federal contracts $	220,550	— 17	+124
Bank debits (thousands) $	40,006	+ 7	+ 2
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡ $	26,125	— 2	— 12
Annual rate of deposit turnover	18.2	+ 10	.....

For explanation of symbols, see page 23.

City and item	Sept 1959	Percent Change: Sept 1959 from Aug 1959	Percent Change: Sept 1959 from Sept 1958
BRADY (pop. 5,944)			
Postal receipts*	$ 4,047	— 12	+ 3
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 12,350	+4017	— 31
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 4,894	+ 14	+ 13
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 7,218	+ 2	+ 3
Annual rate of deposit turnover	8.2	+ 11	+ 11
BRENHAM (pop. 6,941)			
Postal receipts*	$ 8,097	+ 39	+ 20
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 62,875	— 33	— 16
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 10,127	+ 24	+ 30
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 12,490	+ 2	— 2
Annual rate of deposit turnover	9.8	+ 21	+ 31
BROWNSVILLE (pop. 36,066)			
Retail sales			
Automotive stores	— 9†	**	— 10
Lumber, building material, and hardware stores	— 4†	+ 15	+ 20
Postal receipts*	$ 26,991	— 7	+ 14
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 198,840	+110	+ 69
BROWNWOOD (pop. 20,181)			
Retail sales	— 1†	— 13	+ 5
Apparel stores	+ 15†	+ 11	+ 2
Automotive stores	— 9†	— 27	+ 10
Furniture and household appliance stores	— 8†	— 3	— 6
Postal receipts*	$ 23,154	+ 5	+ 14
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 13,253	— 96	+133
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 13,602	+ 2	+ 10
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 12,841	— 1	— 4
Annual rate of deposit turnover	12.6	+ 1	+ 14
BRYAN (pop. 23,883r)			
Retail sales	— 1†	— 14	**
Apparel stores	+ 15†	— 2	— 20
Food stores	+ 2†	+ 2	+ 9
Furniture and household appliance stores	— 8†	— 25	— 14
Postal receipts*	$ 20,626	— 1	+ 7
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 258,265	— 61	+ 2
CALDWELL (pop. 2,100r)			
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 2,394	+ 10	+ 14
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 4,534	+ 3	+ 7
Annual rate of deposit turnover	6.4	+ 8	+ 7
CISCO (pop. 5,230)			
Postal receipts*	$ 4,239	+ 12	+ 17
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 3,188	+ 6	+ 18
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 4,067	+ 4	+ 8
Annual rate of deposit turnover	9.6	— 5	+ 14
CLEBURNE (pop. 12,905)			
Retail sales			
Apparel stores	+ 15†	+ 12	— 7
Postal receipts*	$ 11,733	— 13	— 7
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 109,380	+ 42	+237
CORPUS CHRISTI (pop. 180,000r)			
Retal sales	— 1†	— 6	+ 16
Apparel stores	+ 15†	+ 13	+ 14
Automotive stores	— 9†	— 4	+ 27
Lumber, building material, and hardware stores	— 4†	— 12	— 34
Postal receipts*	$ 147,490	+ 2	.....
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 1,224,130	+ 1	— 2
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 197,038	**	+ 4
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 111,652	— 2	— 4
Annual rate of deposit turnover	21.0	+ 1	+ 7
Employment (area)	64,200	**	— 3
Manufacturing employment (area)	8,280	**	**
Percent unemployed (area)	4.9	+ 20	— 25
CORSICANA (pop. 25,262r)			
Postal receipts*	$ 16,210	— 38	**
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 37,500	— 58	— 50
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 17,200	+ 1	— 10
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 20,059	**	— 8
Annual rate of deposit turnover	10.3	+ 2	— 1
DALLAS (pop. 641,000r)			
Retail sales	+ 2†	— 3	+ 6
Apparel stores	+ 23†	+ 5	+ 5
Automotive stores	— 10†	— 35	+ 18
Eating and drinking places	— 5†	— 2	— 5
Food stores	+ 4†	+ 5	+ 7
Furniture and household appliance stores	— 8†	— 15	+ 5
Lumber, building material, and hardware stores	— 1†	— 3	— 7
Office, store, and school supply dealers	+ 2†	+ 20	+ 17
Postal receipts*	$ 978,641	+ 1	+ 1
Building permits, less federal contracts	$12,773,758	— 6	— 4
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 2,574,482	**	+ 14
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 1,138,722	+ 2	+ 3
Annual rate of deposit turnover	27.4	**	+ 10
Employment (area)	397,200	**	+ 3
Manufacturing employment (area)	85,125	— 1	— 4
Percent unemployed (area)	2.9	— 3	— 29
DEL RIO (pop. 14,292r)			
Postal receipts*	$ 11,767	+ 11	.....
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 82,136	— 15	— 81
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 10,365	+ 10	+ 24
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 12,734	+ 4	+ 14
Annual rate of deposit turnover	9.9	+ 6	+ 9
DENTON (pop. 29,479r)			
Retail sales			
Drug stores	— 1†	— 4	+ 3
Postal receipts*	$ 32,885	+ 43	+ 47
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 158,084	— 16	+ 14
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 17,885	+ 6	.....
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 18,436	**	.....
Annual rate of deposit turnover	11.6	+ 6	.....
EDINBURG (pop. 15,993r)			
Postal receipts*	$ 8,837	— 2	**
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 78,950	— 53	+118
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 15,719	.....	+ 38
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 8,377	— 5	— 5
Annual rate of deposit turnover	21.9	.....	+ 30
EL PASO (pop. 244,000r)			
Retail sales	— 1†	— 4	+ 6
Apparel stores	+ 15†	— 12	— 5
Automotive stores	— 9†	— 14	+ 26
Drug stores	— 1†	**	+ 8
Food stores	+ 2†	— 7	+ 3
Furniture and household appliance stores	— 8†	— 11	+ 8
General merchandise stores	+ 4†	+ 6	— 3
Lumber, building material, and hardware stores	— 4†	— 7	+ 10
Postal receipts*	$ 247,398	+ 3	+ 4
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 7,687,016	+ 7	+ 44
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 332,412	+ 4	+ 13
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 164,012	— 4	+ 5
Annual rate of deposit turnover	23.8	+ 4	+ 4
Employment (area)	83,600	**	+ 1
Manufacturing employment (area)	12,780	— 7	— 5
Percent unemployed (area)	3.4	— 8	— 13

For explanation of symbols, see page 23.

City and item	Sept 1959	Percent Change: Sept 1959 from Aug 1959	Percent Change: Sept 1959 from Sept 1958
FORT WORTH (pop. 373,000[r])			
Retail sales	+ 1†	— 4	+ 7
Apparel stores	+ 5†	— 12	+ 3
Automotive stores	— 6†	— 12	+ 28
Drug stores	— 3†	+ 1	+ 4
Eating and drinking places	— 4†	— 9	— 13
Food stores	**†	+ 3	— 2
Furniture and household appliance stores	— 18†	— 22	+ 18
Gasoline and service stations	**†	— 8	— 13
General merchandise stores	+ 3†	+ 2	+ 1
Lumber, building material, and hardware stores	— 6†	— 12	— 6
Postal receipts* $	601,255	— 8	— 6
Building permits, less federal contracts $	3,250,826	— 27	— 15
Bank debits (thousands) $	780,877	+ 4	+ 7
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡ $	374,426	— 1	— 1
Annual rate of deposit turnover	24.8	+ 3	+ 4
Employment (area)	207,300	+ 1	+ 2
Manufacturing employment (area)	55,650	**	— 1
Percent unemployed (area)	4.0	— 9	— 30
GALVESTON (pop. 71,590[r])			
Retail sales	— 1†	— 11	+ 8
Apparel stores	+ 15†	**	+ 6
Automotive stores	— 9†	— 27	+ 15
Food stores	+ 2†	— 3	— 2
Lumber, building material, and hardware stores	— 4†	+ 25	+ 18
Postal receipts* $	75,682	— 3	— 9
Building permits, less federal contracts $	221,061	— 80	— 7
Bank debits (thousands) $	93,644	+ 15	+ 3
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡ $	62,529	— 5	— 3
Annual rate of deposit turnover	17.5	+ 15	+ 7
Employment (area)	48,750	**	+ 2
Manufacturing employment (area)	9,860	— 1	— 11
Percent unemployed (area)	7.7	+ 1	+ 1
GARLAND (pop. 28,151[r])			
Postal receipts* $	22,163	**	+ 14
Building permits, less federal contracts $	510,145	— 69	— 74
Employment (area)	397,200	**	+ 3
Manufacturing employment (area)	85,125	— 1	— 4
Percent unempoyed (area)	2.9	— 3	— 29
GIDDINGS (pop. 2,532)			
Postal receipts* $	2,627	+ 7	— 13
Bank debits (thousands) $	2,643	+ 10	+ 30
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡ $	3,837	+ 4	+ 2
Annual rate of deposit turnover	8.4	+ 6	+ 27
GILMER (pop. 4,096)			
Retail sales			
General merchandise stores	+ 4†	+ 2	+ 7
Lumber, building material, and hardware stores	— 4†	— 10	— 6
Postal receipts* $	4,147	— 17	— 17
Building permits, less federal contracts $	3,500	— 65	— 54
GLADEWATER (pop. 6,281[r])			
Postal receipts* $	5,402	— 5	.....
Building permits, less federal contracts $	15,000	— 74	+214
Bank debits (thousands) $	3,756	+ 12	+ 9
End-of-months deposits (thousands)‡ $	4,796	+ 8	— 10
Annual rate of deposit turnover	9.7	+ 7	+ 15
Employment (area)	28,150	+ 1	+ 4
Manufacturing employment (area)	4,980	**	+ 14
Percent unemployed (area)	3.5	— 5	— 34

City and item	Sept 1959	Percent Change: Sept 1959 from Aug 1959	Percent Change: Sept 1959 from Sept 1958
GOLDTHWAITE (pop. 1,566)			
Postal receipts* $	1,603	+ 17	+ 10
Bank debits (thousands) $	3,579	+ 21	+ 13
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡ $	3,681	+ 3	+ 7
Annual rate of deposit turnover	11.8	+ 19	+ 7
GRAND PRAIRIE (pop. 14,594)			
Postal receipts* $	20,876	+ 7	+ 9
Building permits, less federal contracts $	497,986	+ 70	— 35
Employment (area)	397,200	**	+ 3
Manufacturing employment (area)	85,125	— 1	— 4
Percent unemployed (area)	2.9	— 3	— 29
GREENVILLE (pop. 20,034[r])			
Retail sales			
Apparel stores	+ 15†	+ 2	+ 1
Food stores	+ 2†	— 4	— 4
Postal receipts* $	18,639	+ 5	— 12
Building permits, less federal contracts $	184,907	+ 43	+ 16
Bank debits (thousands) $	18,130	+ 13	+ 27
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡ $	16,361	— 7	+ 6
Annual rate of deposit turnover	12.8	+ 13	+ 14
HARLINGEN (pop. 31,799[r])			
Postal receipts* $	31,794	— 4	— 10
Building permits, less federal contracts $	527,110	+ 33	+112
Bank debits (thousands) $	73,066	— 18	+ 38
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡ $	28,749	— 17	— 3
Annual rate of deposit turnover	27.7	.....	+ 30
HENDERSON (pop. 11,606)			
Retail sales	— 1†	— 1	+ 1
Apparel stores	+ 15†	+ 8	— 1
Food stores	+ 2†	— 1	+ 3
Furniture and household appliance stores	— 8†	+ 2	— 7
General merchandise stores	+ 4†	— 23	+ 10
Postal receipts* $	9,941	— 6	+ 23
Building permits, less federal contracts $	140,685	+ 14	+ 60
Bank debits (thousands) $	6,982	— 5	— 6
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡ $	15,526	— 1	— 6
Annual rate of deposit turnover	5.4	— 5	— 2
HEREFORD (pop. 7,500[r])			
Postal receipts* $	8,481	— 5	+ 13
Building permits, less federal contracts $	148,800	+146	+246
Bank debits (thousands) $	13,618	— 2	+ 9
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡ $	10,695	— 1	+ 6
Annual rate of deposit turnover	15.2	— 3	+ 3
HOUSTON (pop. 700,508[u])			
Retail sales¶	— 3†	— 8	— 3
Apparel stores¶	+ 7†	— 7	— 2
Automotive stores¶	— 13†	— 32	+ 20
Drug stores¶	+ 1†	+ 9	+ 12
Eating and drinking places¶	— 1†	— 1	+ 1
Food stores¶	+ 1†	— 3	— 6
Furniture and household appliance stores¶	— 2†	— 10	— 20
Gasoline and service stations¶	— 3†	+ 10	+ 10
General merchandise stores¶	— 2†	— 8	— 4
Lumber, building material, and hardware stores¶	— 9†	— 2	+ 16
Other retail stores¶	+ 1	+ 5	+ 22
Postal receipts* $	1,356,196	— 4	+ 2
Building permits, less federal contracts $	16,666,249	+ 16	— 21
Bank debits (thousands) $	2,560,855	+ 6	+ 13
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡ $	1,230,380	+ 1	+ 2
Annual rate of deposit turnover	25.1	+ 7	+ 11
Employment (area)	485,000	**	+ 6
Manufacturing employment (area)	92,200	— 1	**
Percent unemployed (area)	4.1	**	— 40

For explanation of symbols, see page 23.

LOCAL BUSINESS CONDITIONS

City and item	Sept 1959	Percent Change: Sept 1959 from Aug 1959	Percent Change: Sept 1959 from Sept 1958
IRVING (pop. 40,065r)			
Postal receipts*	$ 20,461	+ 8	+ 22
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 1,322,773	— 23	+ 91
Employment (area)	397,200	**	+ 3
Manufacturing employment (area)	85,125	— 1	— 4
Percent unemployed (area)	2.9	— 3	— 29
JACKSONVILLE (pop. 8,607)			
Postal receipts*	$ 17,707	+ 56	+ 4
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 127,800	— 32	+249
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 15,305	+ 44	.....
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 9,009	+ 2	.....
Annual rate of deposit turnover	20.6	.....	.....
JASPER (pop. 4,403)			
Retail sales	— 1†	— 11	+ 25
Automotive stores	— 9†	— 19	+ 42
Postal receipts*	$ 6,736	— 10	+ 16
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 7,025	+ 7	+ 8
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 8,438	+ 4	+ 27
Annual rate of deposit turnover	10.2	+ 6	— 13
KILGORE (pop. 12,373r)			
Postal receipts*	$ 12,076	+ 2	+ 1
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 84,452	— 3	+ 40
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 14,531	— 9	— 8
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 15,992	+ 7	+ 3
Annual rate of deposit turnover	11.3	— 10	.....
Employment (area)	28,150	+ 1	+ 4
Manufacturing employment (area)	4,980	**	+ 14
Percent unemployed (area)	3.5	— 5	— 34
KILLEEN (pop. 26,646r)			
Retail sales			
Lumber, building material, and hardware stores	— 4†	— 19	— 6
Postal receipts*	$ 22,868	+ 11	+ 1
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 348,004	— 13	+185
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 9,229	— 7	+ 8
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 6,932	— 3	+ 7
Annual rate of deposit turnover	15.7	— 6	**
LAMESA (pop. 13,813r)			
Retail sales			
Automotive stores	— 9†	— 18	+ 53
Postal receipts*	$ 12,266	— 45	+ 5
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 222,060	.....	+ 25
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 20,103	+ 75	+ 45
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 15,009	+ 20	+ 12
Annual rate of deposit turnover	17.5	+ 65	+ 36
LAMPASAS (pop. 4,869)			
Postal receipts*	$ 4,861	+ 11	+ 37
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 20,000	— 67	+ 49
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 6,670	+ 3	+ 26
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 6,844	— 5	+ 4
Annual rate of deposit turnover	11.4	+ 6	+ 19
LAREDO (pop. 59,350r)			
Postal receipts*	$ 26,453	— 5	— 1
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 605,743	+692	+466
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 26,248	+ 9	+ 6
End-of-months deposits (thousands)‡	$ 21,811	**	— 1
Annual rate of deposit turnover	14.5	+ 10	+ 6
LLANO (pop. 2,957r)			
Postal receipts*	$ 3,331	+ 96	+ 92
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 3,829	— 12	+ 8
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 4,463	— 2	+ 12
Annual rate of deposit turnover	10.2	— 17	— 4
LOCKHART (pop. 7,067r)			
Postal receipts*	$ 3,936	+ 17	— 1
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 697,528	+9752‖	+954‖
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 5,976	+ 8	+ 22
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 5,601	— 2	**
Annual rate of deposit turnover	12.7	+ 5	+ 19
LONGVIEW (pop. 52,164r)			
Postal receipts*	$ 86,826	— 15	— 1
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 630,200	+ 94	— 13
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 42,060	— 4	+ 21
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 35,112	— 16	+ 2
Annual rate of deposit turnover	13.2	— 2	.....
Employment (area)	28,150	+ 1	+ 4
Manufacturing employment (area)	4,980	**	+ 14
Percent unemployed (area)	3.5	— 5	— 34
LUBBOCK (pop. 152,776r)			
Retail sales	— 1†	+ 5	+ 12
Apparel stores	+ 15†	+ 6	— 3
Furniture and household appliance stores	— 8†	+ 1	— 3
Lumber, building material, and hardware stores	— 4†	+ 84	+ 20
Postal receipts*	$ 139,630	+ 6	+ 20
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 3,062,667	— 15	— 38
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 183,434	+ 8	+ 16
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 105,529	— 5	**
Annual rate of deposit turnover	20.4	+ 9	+ 11
Employment (area)	52,600	+ 2	+ 8
Manufacturing employment (area)	5,460	— 1	+ 9
Percent unemployed (area)	2.9	— 15	— 41
LUFKIN (pop. 20,846r)			
Retail sales			
Food stores	+ 2†	— 3	— 3
Postal receipts*	$ 17,740	— 13	+ 1
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 191,249	+ 32	+ 29
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 24,579	+ 11	+ 2
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 25,224	**	+ 3
Annual rate of deposit turnover	11.7	+ 9	— 2
McALLEN (pop. 25,326r)			
Retail sales	— 1†	— 27	+ 15
Automotive stores	— 9†	— 37	+ 27
Postal receipts*	$ 24,705	+ 7	— 4
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 711,450	+196	+ 86
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 27,154	— 8	+ 13
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 22,842	— 3	+ 35
Annual rate of deposit turnover	14.0	— 10	— 16
McKINNEY (pop. 16,653r)			
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 116,373	— 22	+113
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 10,580	+ 19	+ 22
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 12,316	+ 30	+ 1
Annual rate of deposit turnover	11.7	+ 3	+ 27
MARSHALL (pop. 28,444r)			
Retail sales			
Apparel stores	+ 15†	+ 16	+ 10
General merchandise stores	+ 4†	— 15	— 2
Postal receipts*	$ 21,642	+ 17	+ 10
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 116,265	— 50	— 3
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 15,805	— 2	+ 8
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 20,187	— 2	+ 2
Annual rate of deposit turnover	9.3	— 1	+ 4

For explanation of symbols, see page 23.

City and item	Sept 1959	Percent Change: Sept 1959 from Aug 1959	Percent Change: Sept 1959 from Sept 1958
MERCEDES (pop. 10,081)			
Postal receipts* ..... $	4,678	— 5	— 4
Building permits, less federal contracts $	14,200	— 27	— 42
Bank debits (thousands) ..... $	9,108	— 1	+ 20
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡.... $	5,062	**	— 29
Annual rate of deposit turnover	21.6	— 10	+ 67
MIDLAND (pop. 54,288[r])			
Postal receipts* ..... $	79,001	+ 9	+ 14
Building permits, less federal contracts $	2,605,700	+ 54	+ 40
Bank debits (thousands) ..... $	97,515	— 2	.....
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡.... $	90,348	— 4	.....
Annual rate of deposit turnover	12.7	+ 3	.....
MONAHANS (pop. 10,183[r])			
Postal receipts* ..... $	6,789	— 8	+ 5
Building permits, less federal contracts $	133,910	+ 13	— 42
Bank debits (thousands) ..... $	10,497	+ 2	+ 14
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡.... $	7,160	— 3	— 1
Annual rate of deposit turnover	17.4	+ 2	+ 13
NACOGDOCHES (pop. 14,770[r])			
Postal receipts* ..... $	14,294	+ 11	+ 11
Building permits, less federal contracts $	145,027	— 6	— 90
Bank debits (thousands) ..... $	14,358	— 3	+ 11
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡.... $	15,926	+ 8	+ 8
Annual rate of deposit turnover	11.2	— 6	+ 11
NEW BRAUNFELS (pop. 12,210)			
Retail sales			
Automotive stores	— 9†	— 31	— 8
Postal receipts* ..... $	15,622	+ 12	+ 3
Building permits, less federal contracts $	47,775	— 22	— 56
Bank debits (thousands) ..... $	10,098	+ 5	— 11
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡.... $	11,956	+ 3	+ 19
Annual rate of deposit turnover	10.3	+ 1	— 20
ODESSA (pop. 87,521[r])			
Postal receipts* ..... $	59,388	— 11	— 8
Building permits, less federal contracts $	2,299,642	+ 6	— 6
Bank debits (thousands) ..... $	78,636	+ 6	+ 9
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡. $	69,119	+ 14	+ 13
Annual rate of deposit turnover	14.6	**	**
No. of Rigs operating in Ector County	28	+ 12	.....
No. of Rigs operating in Permian Basin	336	+ 6	— 7
ORANGE (pop. 31,556[r])			
Bank debits (thousands) ..... $	20,289	— 3	+ 11
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡.... $	19,147	+ 1	— 1
Annual rate of deposit turnover	12.8	— 1	+ 15
Employment (area)	105,700	+ 1	+ 3
Manufacturing employment (area)....	33,470	+ 1	— 1
PALESTINE (pop. 15,063[r])			
Postal receipts* ..... $	10,867	+ 1	+ 16
Building permits, less federal contracts $	149,754	+ 79	+214
Bank debits (thousands) ..... $	9,098	— 2	+ 10
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡.... $	13,428	— 1	**
Annual rate of deposit turnover	8.1	— 1	+ 9
PAMPA (pop. 26,720[r])			
Postal receipts* ..... $	20,324	— 4	— 4
Building permits, less federal contracts $	530,620	+ 92	— 2
Bank debits (thousands) ..... $	23,644	+ 9	+ 29
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡.... $	27,364	+ 15	+ 11
Annual rate of deposit turnover	11.1	+ 1	+ 17
Percent unemployed (area)	8.3	— 17	— 24
PARIS (pop. 24,551[r])			
Retail sales	— 1†	— 24	+ 5
Apparel stores	+ 15†	+ 37	+ 8
Automotive stores	— 9†	— 40	+ 5
Lumber, building material, and hardware stores	— 4†	+ 17	+ 10
Postal receipts* ..... $	17,510	— 2	+ 4
Building permits, less federal contracts $	222,049	+ 6	+ 23
Bank debits (thousands) ..... $	17,329	+ 22	+ 15
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡.... $	15,727	+ 23	+ 4
Annual rate of deposit turnover	14.6	+ 10	+ 12
PASADENA (pop. 58,928[r])			
Postal receipts* ..... $	31,718	— 9	— 7
Employment (area)	485,000	**	+ 6
Manufacturing employment (area)....	92,200	— 1	**
Percent unemployed (area)	4.1	**	— 40
PHARR (pop. 8,690)			
Postal receipts* ..... $	5,324	— 5	+ 5
Bank debits (thousands) ..... $	5,441	+ 13	+ 28
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡.... $	4,729	— 12	+ 14
Annual rate of deposit turnover	12.9	+ 6	+ 24
PLAINVIEW (pop. 21,106[r])			
Retail sales	— 1†	— 7	+ 10
Apparel stores	+ 15†	+ 16	**
Automotive stores	— 9†	— 22	+ 58
General merchandise stores	+ 4†	— 18	— 7
Postal receipts* ..... $	16,056	— 1	— 7
Building permits, less federal contracts $	191,400	+ 79	— 27
Bank debits (thousands) ..... $	25,420	+ 12	.....
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡.... $	21,175	— 5	.....
Annual rate of deposit turnover	14.1	+ 16	.....
PORT ARTHUR (pop. 82,150[u])			
Retail sales	— 1†	— 6	+ 7
Apparel stores	+ 15†	**	+ 10
Automotive stores	— 9†	— 10	+ 16
Food stores	+ 2†	— 4	— 10
Furniture and household appliance stores	— 8†	— 26	**
Lumber, building material, and hardware stores	— 4†	+ 18	+ 8
Building permits, less federal contracts $	530,843	+ 36	+ 48
Bank debits (thousands) ..... $	60,873	— 2	+ 1
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡.... $	42,371	— 1	— 8
Annual rate of deposit turnover	17.2	— 1	+ 7
Employment (area)	105,700	+ 1	+ 3
Manufacturing employment (area)....	33,470	+ 1	— 1
Percent unemployed (area)	8.3	— 17	— 24
RAYMONDVILLE (pop. 9,136[r])			
Postal receipts* ..... $	5,956	— 39	+ 4
Building permits, less federal contracts $	31,780	+453	.....
Bank debits (thousands) ..... $	19,476	— 18	.....
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡.... $	11,178	— 13	.....
Annual rate of deposit turnover	19.5	.....	.....
ROCKDALE (pop. 6,400[r])			
Postal receipts* ..... $	3,923	+ 35	+ 2
Building permits, less federal contracts $	4,830	— 56	— 87
Bank debits (thousands) ..... $	3,740	+ 7	+ 13
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡.... $	5,350	**	+ 2
Annual rate of deposit turnover	8.4	+ 8	+ 12

For explanation of symbols, see page 23.

LOCAL BUSINESS CONDITIONS

City and item	Sept 1959	Percent Change: Sept 1959 from Aug 1959	Percent Change: Sept 1959 from Sept 1958
SAN ANGELO (pop. 62,359r)			
Retail sales	— 1†	+ 2	+ 6
Jewelry stores	.....	— 38	**
Postal receipts* ....$	62,496	+ 2	+ 2
Building permits, less federal contracts $	495,550	+ 35	+ 49
Bank debits (thousands) ....$	58,092	+ 11	+ 12
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡....$	46,334	+ 2	+ 8
Annual rate of deposit turnover	15.1	+ 9	+ 3
Employment (area)	23,150	**	+ 2
Manufacturing employment (area)	3,240	— 1	+ 9
Percent unemployed (area)	3.7	— 10	— 46
SAN ANTONIO (pop. 555,000r)			
Retail sales	— 3†	— 11	+ 4
Apparel stores	+ 11†	— 3	+ 2
Automotive stores	— 3†	— 25	+ 12
Drug stores	— 2†	— 1	+ 5
Eating and drinking places	— 9†	— 16	+ 2
Florists	.....	— 4	— 7
Food stores	— 6†	— 5	**
Furniture and household appliance stores	— 8†	— 13	— 4
Gasoline and service stations	— 5†	+ 5	+ 12
General merchandise stores	— 3†	— 25	— 3
Lumber, building material, and hardware stores	— 7†	— 3	+ 21
Postal receipts* ....$	580,746	— 6	+ 4
Building permits, less federal contracts $	6,715,031	+ 78	+ 43
Bank debits (thousands) ....$	603,139	+ 1	+ 12
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡....$	387,952	— 3	— 1
Annual rate of deposit turnover	18.4	+ 2	+ 10
Employment (area)	202,700	+ 1	+ 3
Manufacturing employment (area)	25,625	**	+ 7
Percent unemployed (area)	3.1	— 6	— 21
SAN MARCOS (pop. 14,300r)			
Postal receipts* ....$	7,921	— 5	— 14
Building permits, less federal contracts $	19,422	— 89	— 98
Bank debits (thousands) ....$	7,589	— 11	— 6
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡....$	9,319	+ 2	+ 5
Annual rate of deposit turnover	9.9	— 15	— 12
SAN SABA (pop. 3,400)			
Bank debits (thousands) ....$	4,105	— 1	— 4
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡....$	4,685	— 1	**
Annual rate of deposit turnover	10.4	— 3	— 6
SEGUIN (pop. 14,000r)			
Postal receipts* ....$	10,864	+ 19	+ 7
Building permits, less federal contracts $	38,955	— 27	+ 74
Bank debits (thousands) ....$	11,210	+ 16	+ 22
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡....$	14,212	— 1	— 9
Annual rate of deposit turnover	9.4	+ 13	+ 32
SHERMAN (pop. 31,269r)			
Retail sales	— 1†	— 16	— 2
Apparel stores	+ 15†	+ 21	— 13
Automotive stores	— 9†	— 37	— 11
Furniture and household appliance stores	— 8†	— 4	+ 2
Lumber, building material, and hardware stores	— 4†	— 13	+ 8
Postal receipts* ....$	25,702	+ 1	— 7
Building permits, less federal contracts $	259,066	— 59	+ 1
Bank debits (thousands) ....$	23,782	— 4	— 4
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡....$	19,064	— 2	+ 9
Annual rate of deposit turnover	14.8	— 5	.....

City and item	Sept 1959	Percent Change: Sept 1959 from Aug 1959	Percent Change: Sept 1959 from Sept 1958
SLATON (pop. 6,351r)			
Postal receipts* ....$	3,337	+ 28	+ 3
Building permits, less federal contracts $	10,000	— 84	— 85
Bank debits (thousands) ....$	2,823	+ 1	+ 7
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡....$	3,495	— 5	— 2
Annual rate of deposit turnover	9.4	+ 7	+ 3
Employment (area)	52,600	+ 2	+ 8
Manufacturing employment (area)	5,460	— 1	+ 9
Percent unemployed (area)	2.9	— 15	— 41
SMITHVILLE (pop. 3,376r)			
Postal receipts* ....$	1,696	+ 7	.....
Bank debits (thousands) ....$	1,250	— 5	+ 38
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡....$	2,361	**	— 2
Annual rate of deposit turnover	6.3	— 6	.....
SNYDER (pop. 16,324r)			
Postal receipts* ....$	11,111	— 15	— 24
Building permits, less federal contracts $	311,600	+109	+393
Bank debits (thousands) ....$	14,701	+ 13	+ 13
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡....$	13,414	— 1	— 20
Annual rate of deposit turnover	13.1	+ 25	+ 39
SULPHUR SPRINGS (pop. 9,890r)			
Postal receipts* ....$	7,713	— 12	— 1
Building permits, less federal contracts $	47,350	+ 11	.....
Bank debits (thousands) ....$	10,768	+ 11	+ 17
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡....$	12,384	+ 3	+ 2
Annual rate of deposit turnover	10.6	.....	+ 15
SWEETWATER (pop. 16,283r)			
Postal receipts* ....$	10,131	— 37	— 7
Building permits, less federal contracts $	101,450	— 36	— 56
Bank debits (thousands) ....$	11,319	+ 3	+ 10
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡....$	10,832	— 11	— 2
Annual rate of deposit turnover	11.8	+ 5	+ 4
TAYLOR (pop. 9,071)			
Retail sales			
Automotive stores	— 9†	— 24	— 4
Postal receipts* ....$	7,153	— 20	— 10
Building permits, less federal contracts $	23,228	— 16	— 46
Bank debits (thousands) ....$	11,622	+ 22	+ 24
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡....$	14,550	+ 6	+ 6
Annual rate of deposit turnover	9.9	+ 14	+ 16
TEMPLE (pop. 33,912r)			
Retail sales	— 1†	— 7	— 1
Apparel stores	+ 15†	+ 4	+ 7
Drug stores	— 1†	+ 4	+ 2
Furniture and household appliance stores	— 8†	— 17	+ 30
Lumber, building material, and hardware stores	— 4†	— 28	— 10
Postal receipts* ....$	33,034	+ 6	— 2
Building permits, less federal contracts $	281,212	+ 32	— 4
TYLER (pop. 49,443)			
Retail sales			
Automotive stores	— 9†	— 22	+ 16
Postal receipts* ....$	77,940	+ 8	— 8
Building permits, less federal contrac'ts $	634,390	— 24	— 11
Bank debits (thousands) ....$	88,524	+ 5	+ 6
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡....$	59,184	— 3	— 3
Annual rate of deposit turnover	17.6	+ 5	+ 8

For explanation of symbols, see page 23.

LOCAL BUSINESS CONDITIONS

City and item	Sept 1959	Percent Change: Sept 1959 from Aug 1959	Percent Change: Sept 1959 from Sept 1958
TEXARKANA (pop. 50,784[r])			
Retail sales			
Apparel stores	+ 15†	+ 8	— 11
Automotive stores	— 9†	— 31	— 8
Furniture and household appliance stores	— 8†	— 45	— 7
Postal receipts*§	$ 45,122	— 16	+ 8
Building permits, less federal contracts§	$ 144,174	— 25	— 43
Bank debit (thousands)	$ 49,023	+ 1	+ 12
End-of-month deposits (thousands) §	$ 15,051	— 3	— 12
Annual rate of deposit turnover	16.4	— 2	+ 15
Employment (area)	29,000	— 1	+ 1
Manufacturing employment (area)	3,880	**	+ 6
Percent unemployed (area)	5.8	— 9	— 29
TEXAS CITY (pop. 30,000[r])			
Retail sales			
Lumber, building material, and hardware stores	— 4†	— 8	+ 15
Postal receipts*	$ 17,802	— 5	— 6
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 625,850	+120	+ 31
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 20,932	+ 4	+ 7
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 11,249	— 11	— 9
Annual rate of deposit turnover	21.1	+ 2	+ 9
Employment (area)	48,750	**	+ 2
Manufacturing employment (area)	9,860	— 1	— 11
Percent unemployed (area)	7.7	+ 1	+ 1
VERNON (pop. 12,684[r])			
Postal receipts*	$ 11,582	+ 53	+ 14
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 189,607	+ 25	+ 46
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 11,835	+ 11	+ 2
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 18,246	— 1	— 8
Annual rate of deposit turnover	7.7	.....	+ 10

City and item	Sept 1959	Percent Change: Sept 1959 from Aug 1959	Percent Change: Sept 1959 from Sept 1958
VICTORIA (pop. 44,188[r])			
Retail sales	— 1†	— 9	+ 7
Apparel stores	+ 15†	+ 2	+ 21
Automotive stores	— 9†	— 21	+ 1
Food stores	+ 2†	— 4	+ 6
Lumber, building material, and hardware stores	— 4†	+ 15	+ 22
Postal receipts*	$ 29,524	+ 4	— 4
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 1,397,430	— 17	+266
WACO (pop. 101,824[r])			
Retail sales	— 1†	— 8	+ 4
Apparel stores	+ 15†	+ 17	— 13
Automotive stores	— 9†	— 21	+ 7
Florists	.....	+ 9	+ 20
Furniture and household appliance stores	— 8†	— 10	+ 36
General merchandise stores	+ 4†	— 3	+ 3
Postal receipts*	$ 149,348	+ 10	+ 9
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 947,441	+ 51	— 34
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 115,869	+ 9	+ 22
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 67,302	**	**
Annual rate of deposit turnover	20.6	+ 8	+ 23
Employment (area)	48,300	+ 1	+ 4
Manufacturing employment (area)	10,330	— 1	+ 5
Percent unemployed (area)	3.3	— 13	— 33
WICHITA FALLS (pop. 103,152[r])			
Retail sales			
Automotive stores	— 9†	— 25	+ 8
Postal receipts*	$ 110,402	+ 9	+ 17
Building permits, less federal contracts	$ 802,468	+ 33	— 11
Bank debits (thousands)	$ 121,710	+ 2	+ 16
End-of-month deposits (thousands)‡	$ 103,399	**	— 5
Annual rate of deposit turnover	14.2	+ 3	+ 22
Employment (area)	41,450	**	+ 5
Manufacturing employment (area)	3,780	+ 1	+ 7
Percent unemployed (area)	3.3	— 6	— 35

† Normal seasonal change from August to September.

* For the period August 22–September 18.

§ Reported by the Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of Houston, for Harris County.

‡ Money on deposit at the end of the month, but excludes deposits to the credit of banks.

r Revised for use by the Texas Highway Department.

u 1950 Urbanized Census.

** Change is less than one-half of one percent.

§ Figures are for Texarkana, Texas (pop. 31,051) only.

‖ Unusually high increase in building activity figures due to a permit for a structure valued at $577,305.

BAROMETERS OF TEXAS BUSINESS

	Sept 1959	Aug 1959	Sept 1958	Year-to-date average 1959	Year-to-date average 1958
GENERAL BUSINESS ACTIVITY					
†Texas business activity, index	225	222	202	217	195
Miscellaneous freight carloading in SW District, index	80	81	76	82	76
Ordinary life insurance sales, index	408	365	416	401	370
Wholesale prices in U.S., unadjusted index	119.6	119.1	119.1	119.6	119.2
Consumers' prices in U.S., unadjusted	125.2	124.8	123.7	124.3	123.4
Income payments to individuals in U.S. (billions, at seasonally adjusted annual rate)	$ 379.6*	$ 380.0r	$ 364.2	$ 378.1	$ 356.6
Business failures (number)	39	30	33	34	35
Newspaper advertising linage, index	182.0	178.5	153.7	177.4	157.5
TRADE					
Total retail sales, index	213*	226r	203r	.....	.....
Durable-goods stores	154*	179r	136r	.....	.....
Nondurable-goods stores	244*	251r	237r	.....	.....
Ratio of credit sales to net sales in department and apparel stores	72.8*	74.4*	71.5r	68.7*	68.1r
Ratio of collections to outstandings in department and apparel stores	35.7*	37.4*	37.4r	36.7*	37.3r
PRODUCTION					
Total electric power consumption, index	418*	408r	375r	377*	338r
Industrial electric power consumption, index	382*	362r	339r	371*	328r
Crude oil production, index	108*	108r	123	117*	109
Crude oil runs to stills, index	137	137	140	144	133
Gasoline consumption, index	.....	177	196	.....	181
Natural gas production, index	.....	196	187	.....	183
Industrial production in U.S., index	148	149	137	149	132
Southern pine production, index		82	105	.....	99
Cottonseed crushed, index		113	126	.....	155
Construction authorized, index	223	231	238	246	231
Residential building	277	257	291	280	259
Nonresidential building	183	203	177	214	206
Cement shipments, index	196	200	187	206	179
Cement production, index	200	218	195	206	180
Cement consumption, index	176	188	183	196	174
AGRICULTURE					
Prices received by farmers, unadjusted index, 1909–14 = 100	274	285	291	282	277
Prices paid by farmers in U.S., unadjusted index, 1909–14 = 100	297	297	294	298	293
Ratio of Texas farm prices received to U.S. prices paid by farmers	92	96	99	95	95
FINANCE					
Bank debits, index	269	264	240	260	232
Bank debits, U.S., index	225	222	204	226	207
Reporting member banks, Dallas Reserve District:					
§Loans (millions)	$ 2,893	$ 2,859	$ 2,639	$ 2,816	$ 2,558
§Loans and investments (millions)	$ 4,490	$ 4,529	$ 4,405	$ 4,512	$ 4,206
Adjusted demand deposits (millions)	$ 2,688	$ 2,675	$ 2,671	$ 2,756	$ 2,650
Revenue receipts of the State Comptroller (thousands)	$ 84,722	$ 88,339	$ 66,216	$ 97,479	$ 85,974
Federal Internal Revenue collections (thousands)	$208,954	$259,335	$177,913	$252,205	$245,458
LABOR					
Total nonagricultural employment (thousands)¶	2,451.0*	2,456.3r	2,407.5	2,431.6*	2,390.1
Total manufacturing employment (thousands)¶	482.4*	484.8r	476.8	482.4*	478.2
Durable-goods employment (thousands)¶	230.8*	233.1r	226.3	231.4*	227.7
Nondurable-goods employment (thousands)¶	251.6*	251.7r	250.5	251.0*	250.5
Total civilian labor force in 17 labor market areas (thousands)	2,139.1	2,140.1	.....	2,098.5	.....
Employment in 17 labor market areas (thousands)	1,975.4	1,965.0	1,801.9	1,932.9	1,792.1
Manufacturing employment in 17 labor market areas (thousands)	369.8	372.0	354.2	365.9	356.3
Total unemployment in 17 labor market areas (thousands)	84.1	89.5	111.2	99.5	119.9
Percent of labor force unemployed in 17 labor market areas	3.9	4.2	.....	4.8	.....

All figures are for Texas unless otherwise indicated. All indexes are based on the average months for 1947–49, except where indicated; all are adjusted for seasonal variation, except annual indexes.

Employment estimates have been adjusted to first quarter 1956 benchmarks.

* Preliminary.

† Based on bank debits in 20 cities, adjusted for price level.

§ Exclusive of loans to banks after deduction of valuation reserves.

r Revised.